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ABSTRACT

This Kids Count data book examines statewide and county trends in the well-being of West Virginia's children. Following a summary which describes overall findings, the bulk of the report presents the statistical portrait, based on 12 indicators of well-being: (1) percent of low birth weight babies; (2) infant mortality rate; (3) child death rate; (4) percent of eligible children served by Head Start; (5) percent of children approved for free and reduced school meals; (6) child abuse/neglect rate; (7) teen birth rate; (8) percent of births to unmarried teens; (9) percent high school dropouts; (10) juvenile delinquency case rate; (11) teen violent death rate; and (12) percent of births to mothers with less than a twelfth-grade education. Trends for data are indicated where appropriate, based on 1980 and 1996 data. Statewide, several indicators show improvement, while the rates of low birth weight babies and births to unmarried teens have increased. A special section on child poverty in West Virginia is also included. (EV)

Report on child poverty in West Virginia

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West Virginia

KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

1998 county profiles of child well-being

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The 1998 WV KIDS COUNT Data Book
is dedicated to the extraordinary contributions of the

Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation
for improving the lives of children in West Virginia

We are deeply grateful for your support and encouragement.

Report on
child poverty
in West Virginia



West Virginia

KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK

6 1998 county profiles of child well-being

7

Acknowledgments

This *Data Book* could not be produced and distributed without the help of numerous people. West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund is grateful to the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which created KIDS COUNT and funds West Virginia KIDS COUNT and KIDS COUNT grantees in the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Bill O'Hare, the Casey Foundation's national KIDS COUNT director, wrote a paper on poverty entitled "*A New Look at Poverty in America*." It was published September, 1996. It is a gem, immensely readable and packed with information on poverty in the U.S. We are deeply grateful for his work and the extraordinary amount of research that forms it. Our work on child poverty is guided by this paper, and much of his information is included.

Contributions of the following individuals and organizations were invaluable: Dr. Ron Althouse, Beth Taylor, and Jim Noonan of the WVU Survey Research Center for coordinating data collection, data processing and manipulation, map construction and data analysis; and our deep appreciation to the following for assistance with data collection and analysis: Tom Light with the Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion at WV DHHR; Randy Childs and Andrew Super with the Bureau of Business Research at WVU; Doris White and Joe Panetta with the WV Department of Education; Craig Richards with the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Office of Audit, Research and Analysis; Kay Tilton with the Office of Social Services, WV Department of Health and Human Resources; Steve Shackelford with the WV Bureau of Employment Programs; Bill Huebner with the Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families; and Marie Pees with the United States Census Bureau.

KIDS COUNT is also indebted to the following

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KIDS COUNT is also grateful for the enduring creativity of Phil Evans who designed the layout and who has created all of our *Data Book* covers and *Data Book* post cards; and thanks to the numerous West Virginia KIDS COUNT Dissemination Partners for helping get the *Data Book* into the hands of community leaders across West Virginia. The Dissemination Partners are listed on the inside back cover.

We are indebted to Carol Sharlip and Rick Wilson of the West Virginia Economic Justice Project, American Friends Service Committee, for educating us about poverty in West Virginia. Their help made this year's book possible.

KIDS COUNT is also indebted to the enthusiastic and faithful service of its Research and Marketing committees. These committees guide the staff's work to select the *Data Book* theme, data collection and analysis, and they guide the staff's work to get the *Data Book* out to people who can make a difference for children. The names of each member of these committees are located on page 87 of this report.

Special thanks to Jeff Crist, Director of Communications, West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund, who coordinated the marketing plan and desktop publishing of this report with confidence and tireless enthusiasm; special thanks also to Pam Folden who labored tirelessly in editing the book; and to Beth Taylor, who has done a splendid job for her first year of coordinating the data collection and analysis.

West Virginia KIDS COUNT could not do its work without the financial support of both the Annie E. Casey Foundation and the West Virginia businesses and nonprofit organizations who have contributed funds to underwrite the costs of *Data Book* production. Special thanks is extended to Gary Ellis, President and CEO of United National Bank and his staff and members of the Fund's Board of Directors for their help in securing sponsors. The names of these sponsors are located on each county page in a box on the lower, right-hand corner and on page 3.

It is our pleasure this year to use the front, inside cover to recognize the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation. The Foundation was established in 1944 by Michael and Sarah Benedum, natives respectively of Bridgeport and Blacksburg, West Virginia. They named the Foundation in memory of their only child, Claude Worthington, who died in 1918 at age 20. Benedum is primarily a regional foundation focusing on West Virginia and Pittsburgh. The directive of its founders guides the Foundation today, "help people help themselves."

Benedum helps KIDS COUNT help others. Benedum launched the work of the KIDS COUNT Fund, and it is their vision and support which helps us continue to help others. Thanks, Benedum, for all you do for children.

West Virginia KIDS COUNT is grateful for the leadership and ever-ready assistance of the National KIDS COUNT staff: Bill O'Hare, Jennifer Baratz, and Francine Brown.

Thanks also to all the West Virginians who make kids count.

Margie Hale
Executive Director
WV KIDS COUNT Fund

1998 Data Book Sponsors

Special thanks to the following sponsors of the 1998 WV KIDS COUNT Data Book

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Education may hold the most promise for reducing poverty.

The 1998 WV KIDS COUNT Data Book is the 7th annual profile of the condition of West Virginia's children. A project of the West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund in collaboration with the West Virginia University Survey Research Center, West Virginia KIDS COUNT brings together the best available data to measure the health, economic, educational and social well-being of children in West Virginia.

In 1989, the Annie E. Casey Foundation launched KIDS COUNT. This initiative is premised on the belief that the more the public and policy-makers know about the status and needs of children, the greater the likelihood those needs will be addressed.

Funded in 1991, West Virginia KIDS COUNT is one of 51 similar projects throughout the United States.

The 1998 WV KIDS COUNT Data Book measures 11 indicators of child and adolescent health, education and economic status. It also includes background information for each county, including demographic and family income data.

Six state maps are included; they provide substate information on poverty related issues: teen birth rate, high school dropout rate, educational level of mothers, median family income, percent of all children receiving free or reduced-priced school meals and percent of children in poverty.

Last year's WV KIDS COUNT Data Book continued to inspire community action for at-risk children and promoted public awareness about children through the print and broadcast media and helped many communities secure funding for programs targeting at-risk youth.

To show our appreciation to our Data Book sponsors, they are recognized on each county page in the box in the lower, right corner. The KIDS COUNT

Fund is grateful and deeply appreciative of its sponsors for helping to fund the production of this Data Book. It is a great encouragement.

Community action for at-risk children continues and engages business, labor, and religious leaders to increase philanthropy, hands-on program involvement and advocacy for children. KIDS COUNT groups are supported by the KIDS COUNT Fund through information, ideas, and mini-grants. The Data Book is used as a tool to select issues for focus and action.

Making KIDS COUNT in West Virginia is a shared enterprise. Consider how you might join in the support of the children of West Virginia. We all need to do more. To join a constituency for children and become part of the solution, call 1-888-KIDS COUNT.

Child Poverty in West Virginia

"Whether or not Mountaineers were always free, they were almost always poor."

John Alexander Williams, *West Virginia*, 1976.

This year's *WV KIDS COUNT Data Book*, the 7th annual edition, focuses on child poverty--its causes, its effects on children and families, its trends and remedies. We have chosen this focus because the effects of poverty upon the well-being of children of all ages are profound. While many children whose families live in poverty do well, research has consistently shown that children living in poverty are at much greater risk than their peers in failing to thrive. Moreover, this impact of poverty is not limited to economic deprivation.

Poverty is associated with health problems, maternal depression, and teen pregnancy. Poverty produces hopelessness within families that limits parents' ability to provide support in a nurturing home for their children.¹

Reducing the number of teens who have babies and the number of high school dropouts, reducing the number of women having babies without a high school education and reducing the amount of child abuse and neglect depends upon reducing child poverty. These social problems are inextricably linked to poverty. Individual programs such as school health clinics and parent education programs are very important in reducing poverty in the long term but by themselves cannot reduce poverty without a simultaneous and direct attack on poverty itself.

WHAT IS POVERTY?

People are generally considered poor if their incomes do not cover basic living costs for their families. Poverty thresholds are the original version of

the federal poverty measure. They are updated each year by the Census Bureau and are used mainly for statistical purposes. All official poverty population figures are calculated using the poverty thresholds. The poverty guidelines are a simplification of the poverty thresholds and are used to determine eligibility for such programs as Head Start, Food Stamps and the school lunch program.

The current poverty thresholds were originally developed as the cost of a minimum diet times three to allow for expenditures on all other goods and services. The thresholds vary by the size and age composition of the family and are updated each year to reflect cost of living increases. In 1996, the federal poverty threshold ranged from \$7,992 for a single individual to \$32,203 for a family of nine or more. The threshold for a family of three was \$13,360. Families or individuals with annual incomes below these levels are considered poor.²

WHO ARE THE POOR?

A common misperception about the poor is that they are one monolithic group. In considering remedies, it is important to know that among the poor there are different groups of people who live in different places; the poor are old and young, white and black; young mothers in college and mothers without a high school diploma or GED. The poor are from cities and rural areas; the poor work and are unemployed. Whites are the largest group among the poor.³

WHAT CAUSES POVERTY?

The increase in poverty among children in the United States largely is attributed to two factors: (1) the lack of improvement in the wage income when adjusted for inflation for those employed in the work

One-half of the poor are in non-working ages (below 18 or over 64). In this group, 40 percent are children and 10 percent are elderly.

One-half of the poor are in the working ages (18-64). In this group, almost half are working.

Source: William O'Hare, "A New Look at Poverty," 1996

force and (2) the increase in the number of single-parent families and the persistence of poverty among these families.⁴

While economic cycles and employment rates play a role in determining poverty rates, the trend toward increased child poverty exists irrespective of economic cycles. Real median family income in 1994 was only two percent higher than it was in 1973. This relative stability of median family income masks two trends: (1) Family incomes have remained stable because women entered the labor force in unprecedented numbers. The median income for men edged downward, and only income from their employed wives offset this decline and prevented the poverty rate from increasing even further. (2) The stability of the median family income masks a growing gap between families at the top and at the bottom of the income distribution. Between 1973 and 1994, the average income for the wealthiest fifth of U.S. households jumped from \$83,300 to \$105,900 in 1994 dollars. The average income for the poorest fifth of households slipped from \$8,100 to \$7,800 over the same period.⁵ There are two trends in West Virginia that are

Child Poverty in West Virginia, continued

different from most states and may contribute to our poverty level: (1) while there have been unprecedented numbers of women entering the labor force throughout the country, West Virginia has the lowest percent of children under age six living with working parents, which means the majority of our two-parent families have one parent at home⁶, and (2) West Virginia also has the lowest median household income in the nation at \$23,250. (1995 Census Bureau)

The nation has experienced a dramatic increase in the number of single-parent families. However, West Virginia has not had that same dramatic growth and is below the national average in its percent of single-parent families.

WHERE IS POVERTY IN WEST VIRGINIA AND WHAT ARE THE TRENDS?

Thirty percent (30) of West Virginia's children are poor. (Census Bureau, 1995) The child poverty rate of the United States is 20.8 percent. Only two states, Louisiana and Mississippi, and the District of Columbia have higher child poverty rates. The rate for Louisiana is 31.3 percent; the rate for Mississippi is 31.0 percent; and the rate for the District of Columbia is 36.8 percent⁷. In 1980, 101,909 children in West Virginia were in poverty, and in 1990, 115,073 children in West Virginia were in poverty.⁸ While the difference between 1980 and 1990 is a relatively small number of children, an increase of only 13,164, it is a startling number given the considerable loss of population West Virginia experienced in that time period. In fact, West Virginia lost the greatest percent of its children than any other state in the nation. In 1995, 128,673 West Virginia children were poor. This is an increase in the number of children in poverty from 1990 of 13,600.

CHILD POVERTY IN WEST VIRGINIA					
Number of Children in Poverty				Percentage of Children in Poverty	
	1980	1990	# Change 1980-1990	% Change in # 1980-1990	% Change
United States	10,121,765	11,428,916	1,307,151	12.9	13.6
West Virginia	101,909	115,073	13,164	12.9	14.5

Source: *Child Poverty in the State of West Virginia*, The Applied Population Laboratory, University of Wisconsin

Among West Virginia counties, Putnam County had the lowest child poverty rate in 1995 (16.3 percent), while McDowell County had the highest rate (56.3 percent). Kanawha County had the largest number of poor children in 1995 (11,840), while Pendleton County had the fewest (396).

In West Virginia, the greatest amount of poverty is in the southern and central parts of the state. This distribution of poverty is illustrated in the state poverty map on page 10. Not surprisingly, the map of median family income in West Virginia on page 10 is strikingly similar to the child poverty map. There are a number of similarities between the poverty map and the map of the percent of mothers with less than a 12th grade education and the teen birth rate. The dropout rate map is somewhat different from the poverty map. Many central and southern counties, the regions where West Virginia is most poor, have dropout rates below

the state average.

In examining poverty rates, 41 of West Virginia's 55 counties have above average child poverty rates compared to the rest of the country.

WHAT IS SO BAD ABOUT POVERTY?

Kenna Seal, the President of the KIDS COUNT Fund, often says, "Poverty has many deadly faces." Deadly faces include ill health, depression, and at the kindergarten age, children who are not ready for school. Women who are poor are more likely to have low birth-weight babies. This can be due to a lack of good nutrition and a lack of prenatal care. Poor children are often not healthy. This is due, in part, to their environment as well as their lack of access to regular and consistent medical care. Ill health compromises normal growth and development. A high percent

Child Poverty in West Virginia, continued

of mothers in poor families are depressed, which is not surprising given the hopelessness of many situations. The stress of always trying to make ends meet in a less than desirable community can create a situation where parents are less able to provide the nurturing and stimulation that young children need to develop their greatest potential. When poor children arrive at school, they are often not ready for school. Our classroom student-teacher ratios are often not sufficient to provide the individual attention that the poor child needs in order to catch up. Many teachers say they can predict in the kindergarten year which children will drop out of school. This lack of readiness for school makes school performance difficult, and as the school years go forward, the child gets further behind. These are often the children who develop behavior problems, get pregnant, engage in juvenile delinquency and/or drop out of school. There is a lot that is bad and deadly about poverty.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

1. Welfare Programs

Cash assistance programs for the poor have little impact on the official poverty rate because they pay out very little money. The average monthly welfare cash assistance grant in West Virginia is \$253. These programs are designed to sustain families, not help them move out of poverty. Cash benefit programs provided to individuals based on their income lifted about three million people in the United States out of poverty in 1994, lowering the poverty rate by about one percentage point over what it would have been. Government social insurance programs, ones that are not dependent upon income eligibility criteria, such as Social Security, are more effective than the "means tested" programs in reducing poverty, in part, because

they pay out much more money.

The average retired person received nearly \$700 monthly from Social Security in 1994. These insurance programs lifted nearly 20 million people out of poverty in 1994, and most of these people were elderly. Without Social Security, the poverty rate among the elderly would be about 50 percent rather than the less than 12 percent it was in 1994.

Bill O'Hare, in *A New Look at Poverty in America*, says "While government programs are often blamed for the plight of the poor, a major government program--Social Security--was largely responsible for the dramatic reduction of poverty among the elderly. But, since Social Security consumes about 22 percent of the federal government's budget, it is not a model that is likely to be applied to the rest of the population."

Many believe welfare reform will have little effect on the poverty rate. Only half of the poor children in the U.S. are enrolled in the cash assistance program. Money and attention to crucial supports for employment are in short supply. Education and training programs are needed to secure stable jobs and to make work more rewarding. And, many who move off welfare will simply become part of the working poor.⁹

2. Education

Education may hold the most promise for reducing poverty. Additional education clearly lowers the likelihood of being poor. A child born to an unmarried, teenage, high school dropout is 10 times as likely to be living in poverty as a child born to a mother with none of these three characteristics.

A new priority must be given to strengthening education in the counties in West Virginia with high concentrations of poverty. The need for reform is

reflected in the National Blue Ribbon School numbers in West Virginia. Of the 134 national blue ribbon schools in West Virginia in 1994, only 15 were in our poorest counties.

Some of the provisions that strengthen schools are: recognizing and rewarding improved academic standards; more parental involvement; more professional development for teachers and reliance on the latest technology; expanding preschool opportunities to assure every child masters the key foundations for later learning; and establishing family resource centers within schools to help deal with the nonacademic problems that influence education.¹⁰

Education for the preschooler and the adult is as important as public education. From birth, children are ready to learn. This readiness holds great promise for our children's future. If early care is warm and responsive, then children will be better able to learn, cope and succeed in life. A statewide early education and care program for families with children from birth to four with high quality parent education, parent-child centers and child day care, will prepare our children for school and prevent many of the deadly risks of poverty.

We cannot fix the problems of our poor children by working exclusively for early childhood programs and public school reform. Reform also should address the educational needs of the parents. It is often the

Common Myths About the Poor

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parents' lack of basic skills that keeps them from becoming employed and being full partners in their child's education.¹¹

At minimum, we need policies which encourage and support welfare recipients to continue with their education. Only 49 percent of West Virginia's welfare recipients have a high school diploma or GED and only 7.4 percent have some post secondary education.¹²

3. Making Work Pay

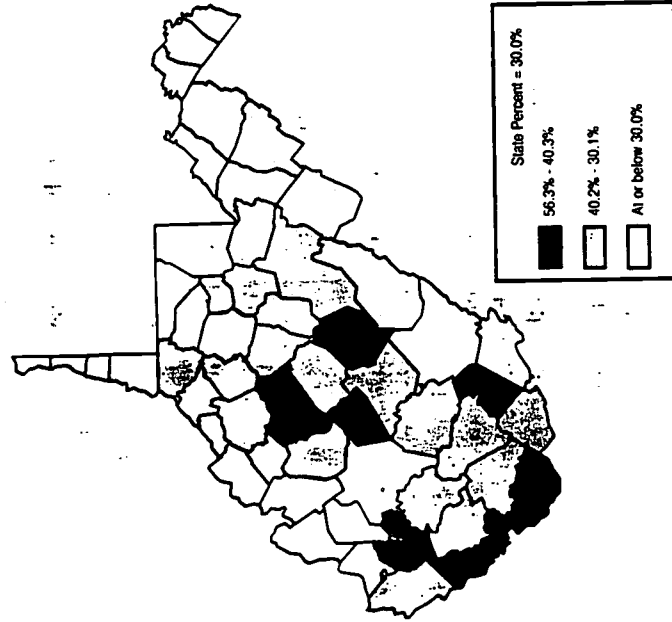
One shouldn't work and be poor. This is what a growing number of families are doing in West Virginia and throughout the nation. They work and they are poor. In 1993, 10.1 percent of all West Virginia children lived in a working-poor family, an unfavorable contrast with the national rate at this same time of 7.6 percent.¹³

West Virginia has the fourth highest percent (40.2) of all men (ages 25-34) earning less than the poverty level for a family of four (\$14,763 in 1993). In addition, West Virginia has the highest percent of children living in neighborhoods where the majority of the men (age 16 and above) worked less than six months of the year.¹⁴

The Earned Income Credit (EIC) is a big step in making work pay. There were 134,531 working families and individuals in West Virginia who received the EIC totaling additional income of \$188,298,000 in tax year 1996¹⁵.

The EIC is the largest anti-poverty program provided by the government. The EIC provides a tax break that allows low-income families to retain more of their earnings. The family income levels for eligibility depend upon family size. A worker raising more than one child with family income of less than \$29,290 in 1997 can get an EIC of up to \$3,656. This

Percent Children in Poverty



program has risen rapidly, growing from \$4.4 billion in 1990 to \$18.1 billion in 1996. Ten states have adopted state-level EIC programs. EIC rewards work, and up to a point, the more earned income a family has the more it benefits from EIC. EIC also targets families with children, and because it works through the tax code, it does not require additional bureaucracy to administer it. Earnings returned through the EIC are not counted in determining poverty because these earnings are a tax refund, and poverty is based on pre-tax income. However, if the EIC benefits had been treated as additional income, they would have lowered the U.S. poverty rate by 1.5 percentage points for children under age 18.¹⁶

Since the EIC lifts a very small percent of families

out of poverty, the eligibility levels and the amount of the tax credit need to be increased in order to make more significant reductions in poverty for those who work. Many Individuals leaving welfare for work do not know about the EIC and how to claim it. EIC outreach campaigns are needed. And, West Virginia could develop its own EIC program; 10 states have already done so.

4. Support Programs

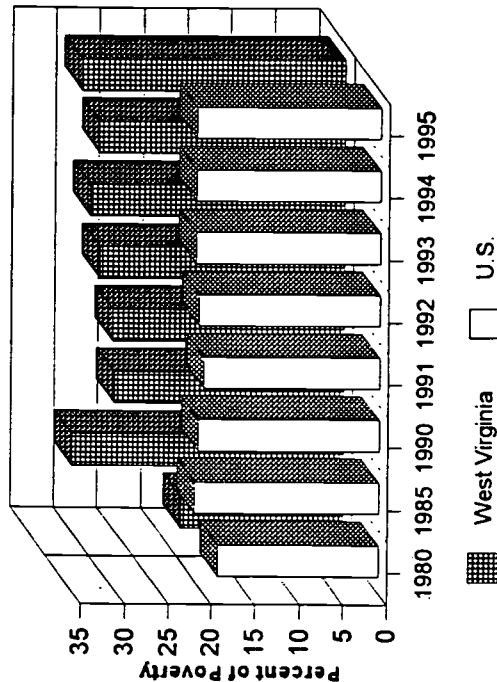
Support programs will not lift families out of poverty but they will make work easier and more rewarding. Expansion of programs that lower some of the barriers to working like subsidized child day care and transportation and medical coverage for the working poor are essential supports for low-income families. Child care and transportation costs are subsidized in West Virginia and those who enter the labor force from welfare continue their Medicaid coverage for a year. Families with incomes below 150 percent of the federal poverty level may receive health coverage for their children through the new Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Some of the challenges to providing support are making sure those who are eligible know about the programs and that supports like child day care are high quality and in sufficient supply. Other important support programs include the Women's and Infant Food Program (WIC) as well as Free and Reduced-Priced School Meals.

HOW CAN WE HELP REDUCE POVERTY?

Everyone can help reduce poverty in West Virginia. The remedies call for action in both systemic ways as well as individual ways.

To improve education, we can read to children, be a mentor, or work with our legislative delegation to

Trends In the Percent of Children In Poverty In WV
1980-1995



Sources: *KIDS COUNT Data Book, State Profiles of Child Well-Being*. The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 1994-1998.
U.S. Census Bureau, *Historical Poverty Tables-People*. 1999.
<www.census.gov/hhes/poverty/>

develop a state early education and care program, or develop a state welfare reform policy that insures that education plays a significant role in helping the poor secure work.

To make work pay, we can work with our legislature to enact a state EIC program as ten other states have done. We can organize an EIC campaign to let workers know they are eligible for the credit and to give them the information they need to apply for it. A state child day care tax credit is another initiative which can support low-income families.

To expand and make available support programs,

we can join with others in the Medicaid and CHIP campaigns to let families know about the programs and how they can apply. We can also work with the child day care community to secure a child day care tax credit to help low-income working families.

These are just a few of the ways to reduce poverty. Many individuals and groups are working to reduce poverty throughout West Virginia, but we all need to do more.

As Doug Nelson, Executive Director of the Casey Foundation said in the national 1996 *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, "Any employment-based solution to chronic poverty must ultimately address a fundamental question: Can we make working

really 'work' for the millions of poor adults we are seeking to empower? Moreover, can we really find lasting employment for those young adults who are now out of the labor force? Can we assure enough quality child care and enough access to health care? Can we adopt tax-policies that will reward the work of young parents with at least some hope of lifting their children out of poverty? Political leaders across the ideological spectrum have pledged to promote 'work not welfare' and to 'empower families' to better meet their own needs. We have the knowledge, resources, and capacity . . . to meet all these challenges. The open question is whether we have the resolve."¹⁷

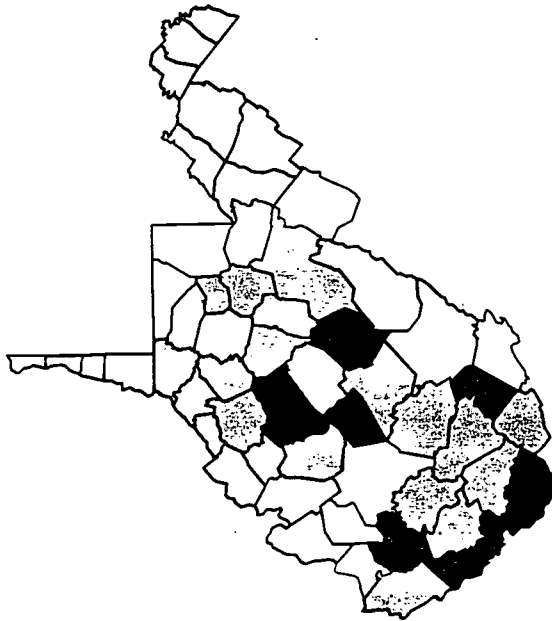
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Child Poverty and its Effects on Child Well-Being

Percent Children in Poverty



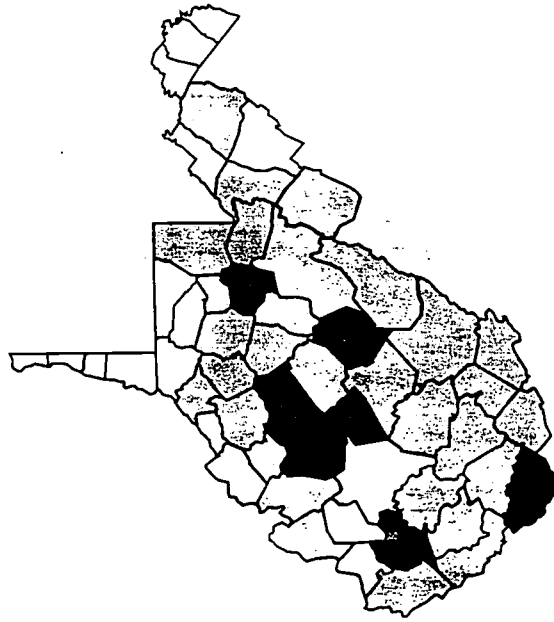
Percent of Children in Poverty (under age 18)

The percent of children in poverty is the share of children under age 18 who live in families with incomes below the U.S. poverty threshold. In 1995, Children are 40 percent of the poor though they are but 26 percent of the total population. Poverty for children has been at or above 20 percent since the early 1980's in the U.S.; in West Virginia, poverty levels have steadily increased to 30.0 percent in 1995. A graphic of these trends is on page nine.

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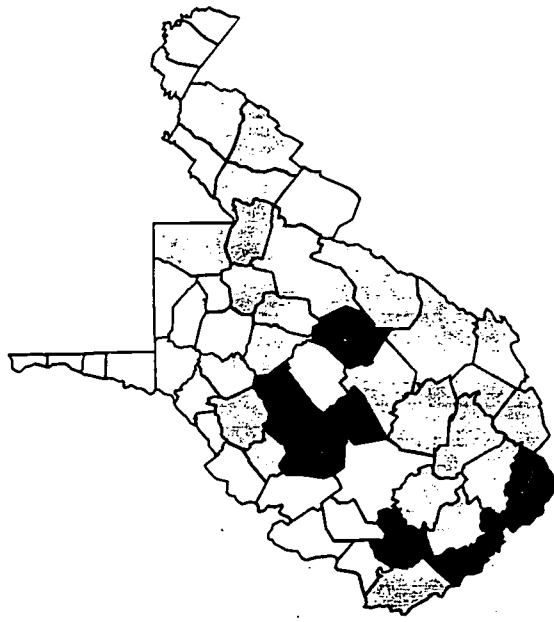
Median Family Income



Median Family Income

Median family income is the annual income of families with related children under age 18 living in the household. The median income is the dollar amount that divides the income distribution into two equal groups--half with income above, half with income below. The figures shown here are from the 1990 Census using 1990 dollars. To demonstrate the decline in West Virginia's median family income, we have adjusted figures to 1995 dollars: in 1980 it was \$31,993; in 1990 it was \$29,839; in 1995 it was \$27,900.

School Meals

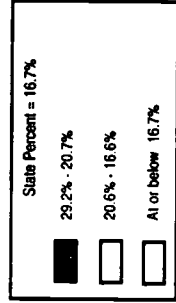
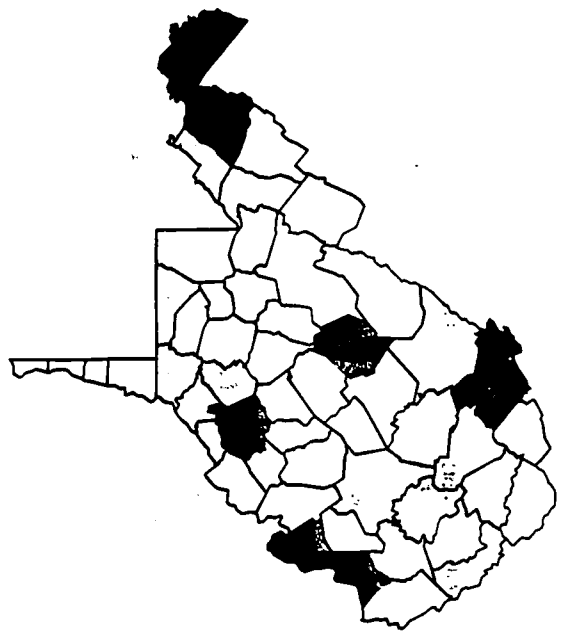


Percent of Children Approved for Free and Reduced Priced School Meals (Grades K-12)

Children are eligible to receive free meals if their family income is below 130 percent of poverty. Reduced-priced meals are provided to children with a family income below 185 percent of poverty. The 1997 poverty guideline for a family of four at 130 percent of poverty is \$20,865, 185 percent of poverty is \$29,692. Like the child poverty rate, the school meal rate continues to climb. In 1997, 49 percent of our school children K-12 received free or reduced-priced school meals. The scope of poverty and near poverty that this indicator reflects is stunning.

Child Poverty and its Effects on Child Well-Being

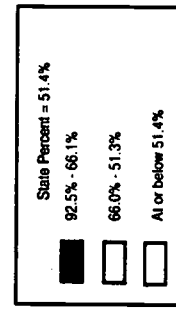
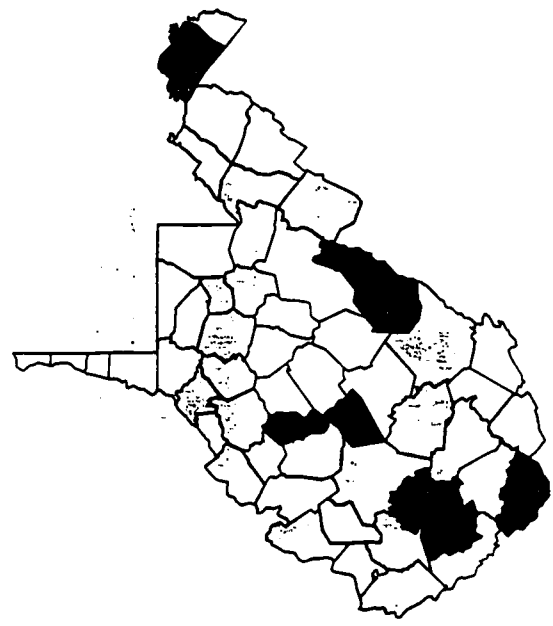
Dropout Rate



Percent High School Dropouts

A high school dropout is one who leaves high school before graduation without transferring to another school. In 1980 the dropout rate was 25.6 percent, and in 1996 it is 16.7 percent, representing a 35 percent improvement from 1980. However, one out of six students drops out of high school; this is far from desirable and far higher than what is attainable. By the time people reach prime working age (25-54), the median personal income of those with just a high school degree (\$18,235) is almost twice that of those who dropped out of high school (\$10,400). (*KIDS COUNT Data Book, State Profiles of Child Well-Being, 1998*)

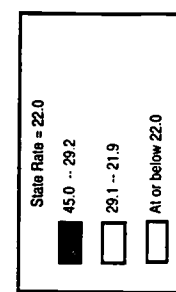
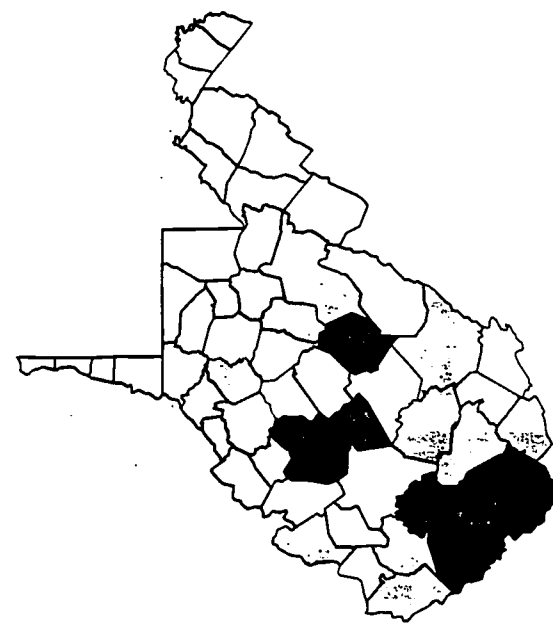
Teen Birth Rate



Teen Birth Rate

The teen birth rate includes all births to both married and unmarried teenage girls. When teens have babies, the teen mother, the baby and society all suffer. According to the Casey Foundation's *When Teens Have Sex: Issues and Trends*, teens who have babies are more likely to come from poor families, have low aspirations, and be a poor academic achiever. Babies born to teens are likely to be born of low birth-weight, more likely to die in the first year of life and are at higher risk of abuse and neglect. Among married men, teen fathers had the least schooling and earned an average of \$3,400 less a year than fathers of children born to mothers who were 20 or 21. There were 3,559 births to teens in West Virginia in 1996.

Educational Level of Mothers



Percent of Births to Mothers With Less Than a 12th Grade Education

The educational level of parents is a strong predictor of child well-being, particularly concerning academic achievement. Nearly one child in four in West Virginia is born to a mother with less than a high school education. In 1996, 22.0 percent of all West Virginia births, or 4,631 births, are to mothers with less than a high school education. This indicator has improved significantly since 1980, when 31.5 percent of all births or 9,248 births were to mothers with less than a high school education.

Status Of Children By Indicator, continued

counties is very small, and this small sample distorts both rates and percent change. For example, four deaths in the current year and one death in the benchmark year could produce a child death rate in the current year of 137, a 442 percent increase over the benchmark year. It is important to check the actual numbers; they are located on pages 85 and 86.

The child death rate for West Virginia children ages 1-14 is 25.8 per 100,000 children. There were 89 child deaths in West Virginia in 1996; one out of every 3,876.0 children ages 1 - 14 died. **This is a 38.3 percent improvement over the 1980 state child death rate of 41.9,** representing 178 child deaths. The 1996 national child death rate, 28.3, is higher than the West Virginia rate.

The 1980 African-American child death rate was 32.1 percent higher than the white child death rate. The 1996 child death rate for African-Americans is 28.7 percent higher than the white child death rate. In 1980, the African-American rate was 51.4, and the white rate was 38.9; in 1996, the African-American rate is 33.2, and the white rate is 25.8. The white child death rate decreased by 33.8 percent over the sixteen-year period, and the African-American rate decreased by 35.5 percent.

Tyler and Brooke counties have no child deaths in 1996, and these counties also have the greatest improvements over the sixteen-year span. Each of their 1996 rates is a 100 percent improvement over the 1980 rate. The worst county is Doddridge, which has a child death rate of 68.1. Hampshire county's child death rate showed the least improvement over the sixteen years; its 1980 rate of 17.5 (representing 3 deaths) grew to 58.7 (representing 10 deaths) in 1996.

PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN SERVED BY HEAD START (ages 3-4)

Head Start is an enormously successful early childhood program. Studies continue to demonstrate the success of Head Start in producing fewer dropouts, fewer delinquents, and better job situations than for those children who do not attend Head Start. West Virginia continues to provide Head Start to its eligible children at greater rates than the nation as a whole.

In 1998, a little under half of all eligible West Virginia 3-4-year-old children were enrolled in Head Start. In 1998, 49.2 percent of all eligible 3-4 year olds, or 6,579 children, are enrolled. This is an increase from last year, when 6,301 children were served.

The county serving the highest percentage of eligible 3-4-year-old children is Morgan with a rate of 190.5 percent. In three counties, Morgan, Hardy, and Grant, participation exceeds 100 percent. This occurs because centers are allowed to serve some children above the poverty level. In addition, there may be underestimates of the number of eligible children. The county serving the lowest percentage of eligible 3-4-year-old children is Pocahontas at 22.4 percent.

PERCENT OF CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE AND REDUCED-PRICED SCHOOL MEALS (Grades K-12)

The Free and Reduced-Priced School Meals program provides school meals to children based on family income. Free meals are provided to children whose family income is below 130 percent of poverty, and reduced-priced meals are provided when the family's income is between 130 and 185 percent of poverty.

In 1997, 149,346 school children in West Virginia were approved for free or reduced-priced school meals. This is 49 percent of all school children in kindergarten through 12th grade. One out of two children in West Virginia receive free or reduced-priced school meals.

The county serving the fewest free or reduced-priced meals to children is Hancock. The percent of Hancock county's school children receiving free and reduced-priced meals is 26.3. The county serving the highest percent of children is Webster. Eighty-one percent of Webster county's children receive free or reduced-priced meals.

CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT RATE (per 100,000 children)

Children who are victims of child abuse and neglect may suffer lasting physical as well as emotional problems. Abused and neglected children need immediate treatment for physical injuries and emotional traumas. Sometimes they need to be removed from their home for protection.

Abuse is a grave problem affecting the child's self-esteem and sense of trust in parental figures unless treatment is received.

In 1996, 15,021 referrals of child abuse and neglect were reported and accepted for investigation by child abuse authorities. **In 1996, one referral of child abuse and neglect was reported and accepted for investigation for every 29.5 children who live in our state.** West Virginia's child abuse and neglect rate is 3,386.3 per 100,000 children.

The county with the lowest child abuse and neglect rate is Monroe with a rate of 1,279.9. The county with the highest rate is Webster, with a rate of 5,669.2.

Status Of Children By Indicator, continued

TEEN BIRTH RATE (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)

The teen birth rate is the number of live births to female teens ages 15 through 19 years old per 1,000 female teens of the same age. The teen birth rate includes all births to both married and unmarried teenage girls.

The Casey Foundation's recently published report, *When Teens Have Sex: Issues and Trends*, documents a nationwide reduction in teen pregnancy. The report says we are making progress, but still too many children are having children. Reducing teen births is extremely important. The costs are great to the teen, to the baby, and to society. West Virginia's progress in reducing teen births means that our decade-long work is paying off. We need to continue our investment in sex education programs because it reduces teen births: We need to continue our investment in family planning programs and programs which help teens with communication and decision-making skills as well as with vocational choices. The Casey Foundation says that the most powerful pregnancy prevention strategy is to make sure all our teens have opportunities, skills, and the confidence to make decisions that safeguard their futures.

There were 3,559 births to teens in West Virginia in 1996; a rate of 51.4 births per 1,000 female teens ages 15-19. In 1996, one out of 19.5 female teens ages 15-19 gave birth. In 1980 there were 5,921 babies born to teen mothers equaling a teen birth rate of 68.9. West Virginia's teen birth rate has decreased by 25.4 percent since 1980. West Virginia's teen birth rate was above the national average in 1980 and now, in 1996, is below the national average. The teen birth rate for the nation in 1996 is 56.8.

The county with the lowest teen birth rate in 1996 is Monongalia county at 22.4. The county with the

highest teen birth rate is Clay with a rate of 92.5.

From 1980 through 1996, 53 of our 55 counties improved their teen birth rate. The most improved county was Tucker, which had a 52.6 percent decrease in its teen birth rate. In 1980, Tucker county's rate was 63.4, representing 22 teen births, and in 1996 it is 30.1, representing 7 teen births. The county with the largest increase in the teen birth rate between 1980 and 1996 is Ohio, which went from a rate of 35.9 in 1980 (106 births), to 44.3 in 1996 (85 births) an increase of 23.4 percent.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED TEENS (ages 10-19)

This indicator measures the percent of all births that are to teens ages 10 through 19 who are unmarried at the time of the baby's birth.

Any teen, whether married or unmarried, is ill-equipped to be a mother, and the risks are great to her, her child, and to society.

One out of nine babies born in West Virginia are born to an unmarried teen. In 1996, 11.2 percent of all births in West Virginia are to unmarried teens.

The percent of babies born to unmarried teens has grown from 6.0 percent (1,751 births) of all births in 1980 to 11.2 percent (2,356 births) of all births in 1996. This is a 87.3 percent increase over the last sixteen years. Nationally, the percent of unmarried teen births is 9.9 percent, better than West Virginia's 11.2 percent. Overall, there are fewer teens having babies in West Virginia; however, there is a significant increase in the percent of teen births to unmarried teens.

The percent of African-American births to unmarried teens is much higher than the white percent in both 1980 and 1996. In 1980, the African-American

percent was 23.1, and the white percent was 5.3; in 1996, the African-American percent is 24.9, and the white percent is 10.7. Between 1980 and 1996, the white percent increased by 101.8, and the African-American percent increased by 7.9. The difference between the African-American rate and the white rate decreased significantly. The white rate is increasing, and the African-American rate remains roughly the same.

None of the 55 counties decreased its unmarried teen birth rate since 1980. The most improved county is Tucker with the lowest percent increase in births to unmarried teens. In 1980, Tucker County had a rate of 3.9 percent, and in 1996 it had a rate of 4.2 percent. The least improved county is Pendleton. In 1980, Pendleton county had a rate of 2.8 percent, representing 3 births to unmarried teens, and in 1996, it had a rate of 11.0 percent, representing 10 births to unmarried teens. Tucker County had the lowest unmarried teen birth rate for 1996 at 4.2 percent. In 1996, McDowell County had the highest unmarried teen birth rate at 16.7 percent, representing 61 births to unmarried teens.

PERCENT HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

A high school dropout is one who leaves high school before graduation without transferring to another school. Children who do not complete high school are more likely to have health, economic and social problems. High school dropouts are less likely than high school graduates to find employment and have less earning potential than graduates.

Students who leave school say the reason is their poor academic performance. Higher rates of dropouts occur for schools that lack an "early warning" mechanism.

Status Of Children By Indicator, continued

There are few direct attempts to prevent dropouts before the youth is at risk. Last ditch intervention efforts are very intensive and costly. Given the high rates of dropouts and the great loss it represents, it is worthwhile to invest in prevention programs that identify children at risk in early childhood and provide high quality educational programs to them. (University of Pittsburgh Office of Child Development, Robert B. McCall)

The number of high school dropouts in West Virginia in 1996 is 4,046 or 16.7 percent of the students in grades 7 through 12. In 1996, one out of 6 seventh through twelfth grade students dropped out of high school. This is a 35.0 percent improvement over the 1980 rate of 25.6 percent or 8,094 dropouts.

Marion County made the greatest improvement, lowering its dropout rate from 25.9 in 1980 to 7.1 in 1996, a decrease of 72.7 percent. The county with the least improvement is Mason, which increased from 15.4 percent in 1980 to 21.5 percent in 1996, an increase of 39.9 percent. The county with the lowest percent of high school dropouts is Marion with only 7.1 percent. The county with the highest percent of high school dropouts is Jefferson with a very high 29.2 percent.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)

The teen violent death rate measures the rates of death for youths ages 15-19 from unintentional injuries, homicides or suicides. Unintentional injuries, such as auto accidents, are the leading cause of death.

The actual number of teen violent deaths in many counties is very small, and this small sample distorts both rates and percent change. For example, four

deaths in the current year and one death in the benchmark year could produce a teen violent death rate in the current year of 137, a 442 percent increase over the benchmark year. It is important to check the actual numbers; they are located on pages 85 and 86.

In 1993, for ages 15-24, 55 percent of deaths were accidents--55.9% were motor vehicle accidents, 18.4% were suicides, and 8.6% were homicides. (Adolescent Health Profile, Bureau for Public Health, 1996).

One out of 1,610.6 teens 15-19 years old died due to a violent injury in 1996. This represents 88 deaths and is a death rate of 62.1 per 100,000 teens. Over the last sixteen years, the teen injury death rate decreased from 87.5 in 1980 to 62.1 in 1996, a decrease of 29.0 percent.

Teen violent death among both African-Americans and whites has decreased since 1980. In 1980, the African-American rate was 97.6, and the white rate was 87.3; in 1996, the African-American rate is 79.7 while the white rate is 61.7. Overall, the white teen injury death rate decreased by 29.4 percent over the sixteen years, and the black rate decreased by 18.4 percent.

Doddridge and Pleasants counties have the lowest teen violent death rate in 1996 and have the most improvement over the sixteen-year period. In 1996, Doddridge and Pleasants counties had a teen injury death rate of 0, which was a 100% decrease from the counties' 1980 teen injury death rate. The county with the highest teen violent death rate in 1996 is Ritchie with a rate of 282.1. The least improved county is Hardy. In 1980, Hardy County's teen violent death rate was 22.3 and by 1996 it had risen to 105.7. Hardy county had one teen violent death in 1980 and four teen violent deaths in 1996.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A 12TH GRADE EDUCATION

The educational level of parents is a strong predictor of child well-being, particularly concerning academic achievement. Nationwide, about one child in every five is born to a mother with less than a high school education. In West Virginia, nearly one child in every four is born to a mother with less than a high school education.

In 1996, almost one quarter or 22.0 percent of all West Virginia births is to mothers with less than a high school education. One out of 4.6 births is to mothers with less than a 12th grade education. There has been significant improvement in this indicator; however, 22 percent is far from desirable and far higher than what is attainable. In 1980, there were 9,248 births to mothers with less than a high school education, representing 31.5 percent of all births. In 1996 there were 4,631 births to mothers with less than a high school education, representing 22 percent of all births. Between 1980 and 1996, the percent of births to mothers without a high school education improved by 30.3 percent.

The county with the lowest percent of births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education is Tucker, with a rate of 11.7 percent. McDowell county ranks highest or worst on this indicator. Almost one out of every two babies, 45.1 percent, born in McDowell County is to a woman with less than a high school education.

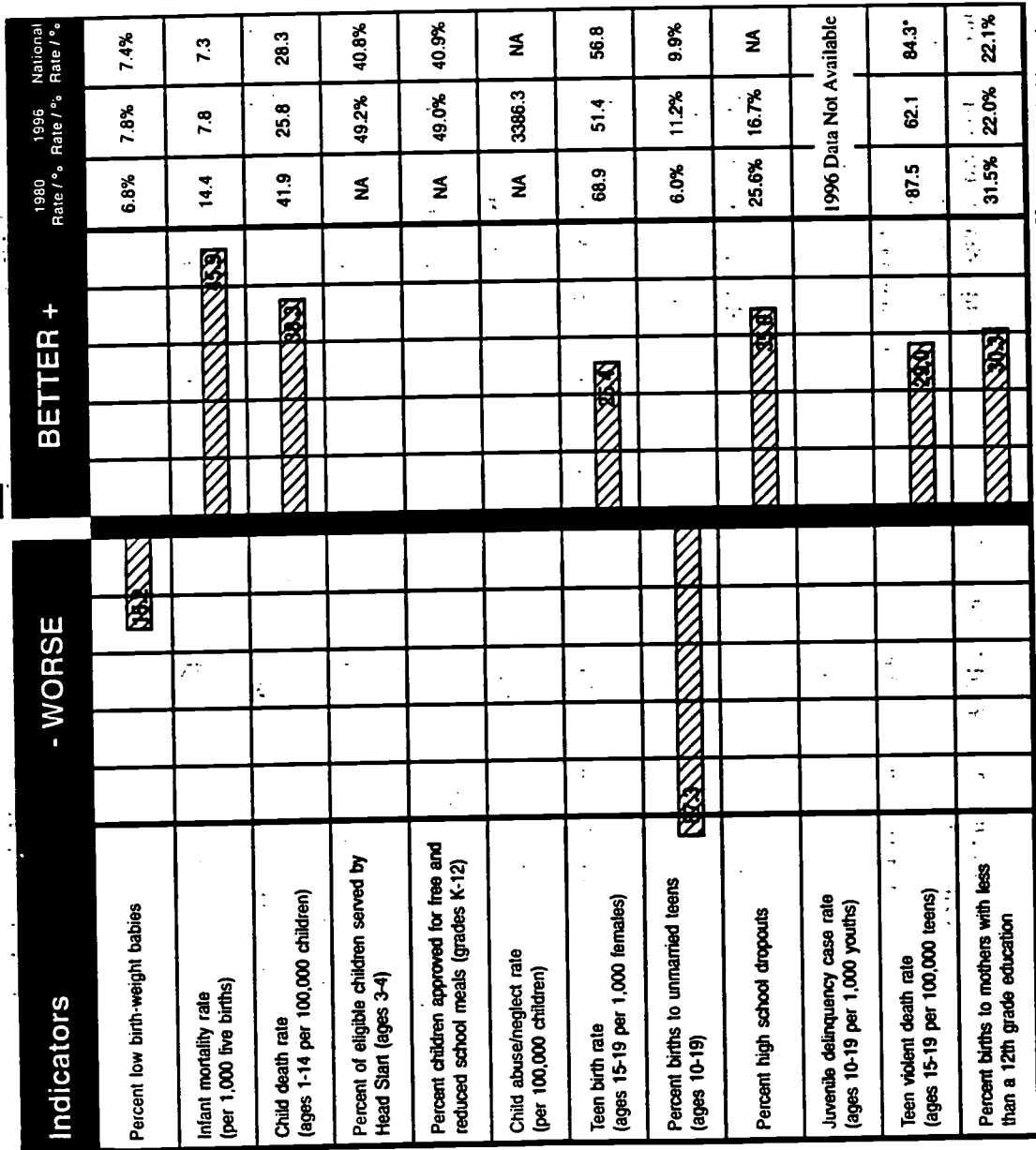
All 55 counties improved on this indicator since 1980. The most improved county is Tucker at 11.7 percent, a 54.4 percent improvement over its 25.7 percent in 1980. The county with the least improvement is Morgan, with a 6.4 percent decrease between 1980 and 1996. Almost 26 percent of Morgan county births are to women with less than a high school education.



West Virginia

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	1,949,644	1,820,407	-6.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,749	\$6,147	64.0%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	9.5%	14.5%	52.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.4%	80.5%	19.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	316,192	253,030	-20.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	296,346	430,848	45.4%
Unemployment rate	9.4%	7.5%	-20.2%
Total population under age 18	559,636	419,674	-25.0%
Percent population under age 18	28.7%	23.1%	-19.7%
Percent minority population	3.8%	4.3%	11.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.2%	5.0%	19.1%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	12.0%	17.4%	45.4%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	18.5%	30.0%	62.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$26,628	\$25,602	-3.9%

The West Virginia KIDS COUNT Fund is

grateful to the business, labor, civic and religious community donors who make publication of the WV KIDS COUNT Data Book possible.

Make note of the donor in your county, and thank him or her for supporting programs that target at-risk children in West Virginia.



WV Minority Profile

Indicator

Percent low birth-weight babies

Infant mortality rate* (per 1,000 live births)

Child death rate* (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)

Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)

Teen violent death rate* (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)

Percent children in poverty

Number of children (ages 0-17)

Number of adults (ages 18 and up)

Trend data: White

Year	Data	% Change
1980	6.5%	
1996	7.6%	16.5% WORSE

Trend data: African-American

Year	Data	% Change
1980	12.3%	
1996	13.7%	11.7% WORSE

Trend data: Other **

Year	Data	% Change
1980	7.2%	
1996	5.6%	22.3% BETTER

1980	14.0	
1996	7.5	46.8% BETTER

1980	25.0	
1996	16.4	34.3% BETTER

1980	3.8	
1996	5.8	54.1% WORSE

1980	38.9	
1996	25.8	33.8% BETTER

1980	51.4	
1996	33.2	35.5% BETTER

1980	0.0	
1996	0.0	NM

1980	5.3%	
1996	10.7%	101.8% WORSE

1980	23.1%	
1996	24.9%	7.9% WORSE

1980	1.8%	
1996	3.4%	89.2% WORSE

1980	87.3	
1996	61.7	29.4% BETTER

1980	97.6	
1996	79.7	18.4% BETTER

1980	0.0	
1996	32.5	NM WORSE

1980	17.9%	
1990	25.4%	41.9% Worse

1980	34.1%	
1990	50.2%	47.2% Worse

1980	17.5%	
1990	22.0%	25.7% Worse

1980	536,323	
1990	423,744	21.0% Decrease

1980	20,061	
1990	16,329	18.6% Decrease

1980	3,252	
1990	3,504	7.7% Increase

1980	1,338,428	
1990	1,301,799	2.7% Decrease

1980	44,990	
1990	39,996	11.2% Decrease

1980	6,590	
1990	8,155	23.7% Increase

In this and previous Data Books, the 1980 figure is based on one year of data, and the most current year is based on an average of three years of data.

* The indicators that are followed by an asterisk on this page are based on an average of five years of data (1976-1980), and the most current year is based on an average of live years of data (1992-1996).

** Other includes Hispanics, American Indians, Eskimos, Aleuts, Asians, and Pacific Islanders.

County Profiles

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				74	Wyoming

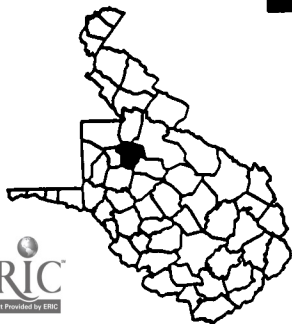
Report on
child poverty
in West Virginia



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COUNTY PROFILES⁴²

43



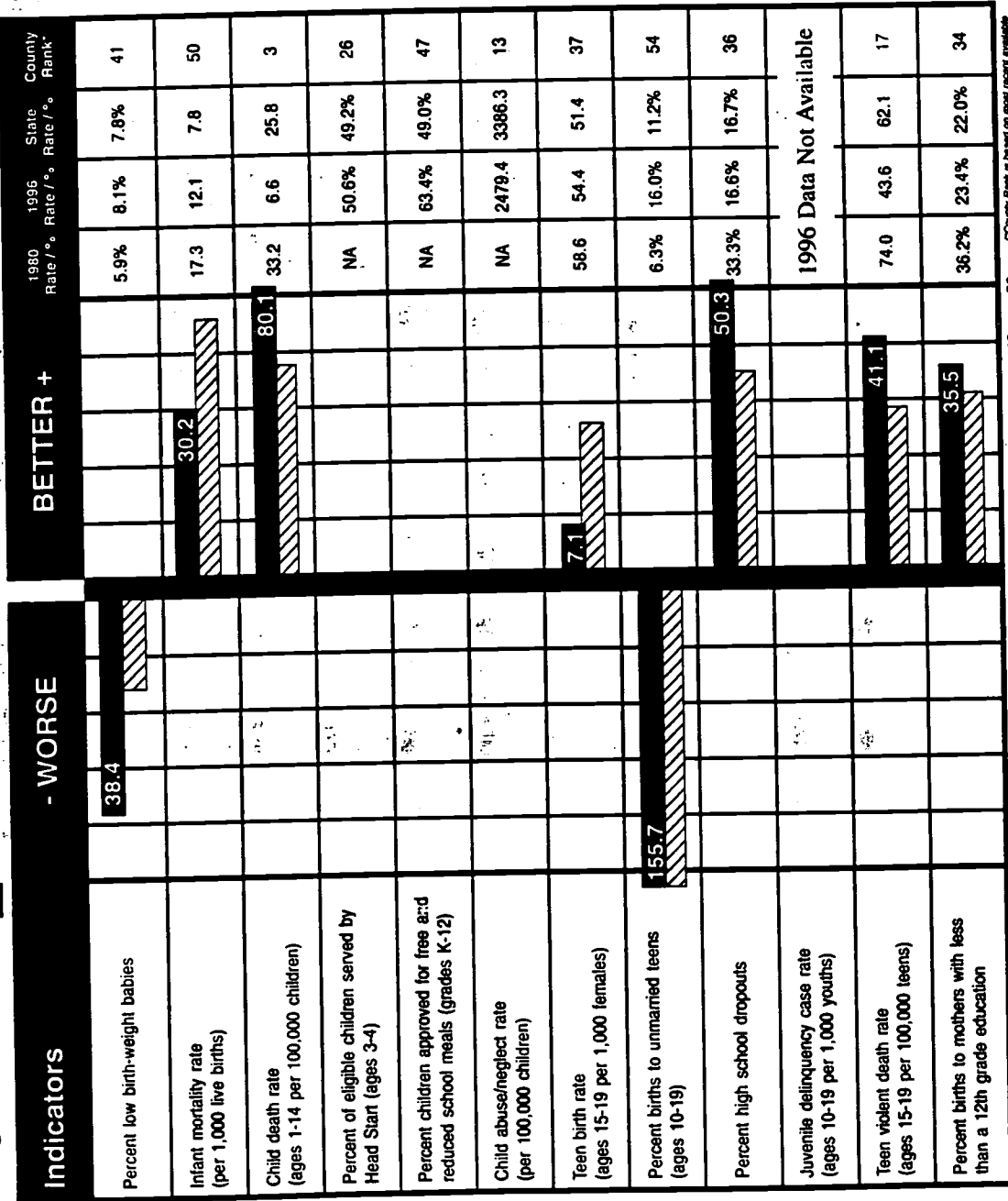
Barbour County

Composite County Rank

38

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



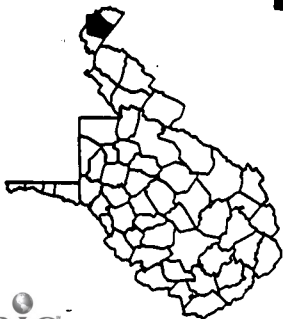
Background Facts

Total population	16,639	16,282	-2.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,513	\$5,782	64.6%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	14.0%	16.7%	19.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	66.3%	83.5%	25.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,527	1,272	-49.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,879	2,570	36.8%
Unemployment rate	8.7%	13.5%	55.2%
Total population under age 18	4,825	3,826	-20.7%
Percent population under age 18	29.0%	23.5%	-19.0%
Percent minority population	1.3%	2.9%	118.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.6%	3.2%	105.1%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	11.0%	17.4%	57.5%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1990	% Change
	25.1%	37.3%	48.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$21,843	\$19,106	-12.5%

*Compliments of
Tom McQuade
and Enron*



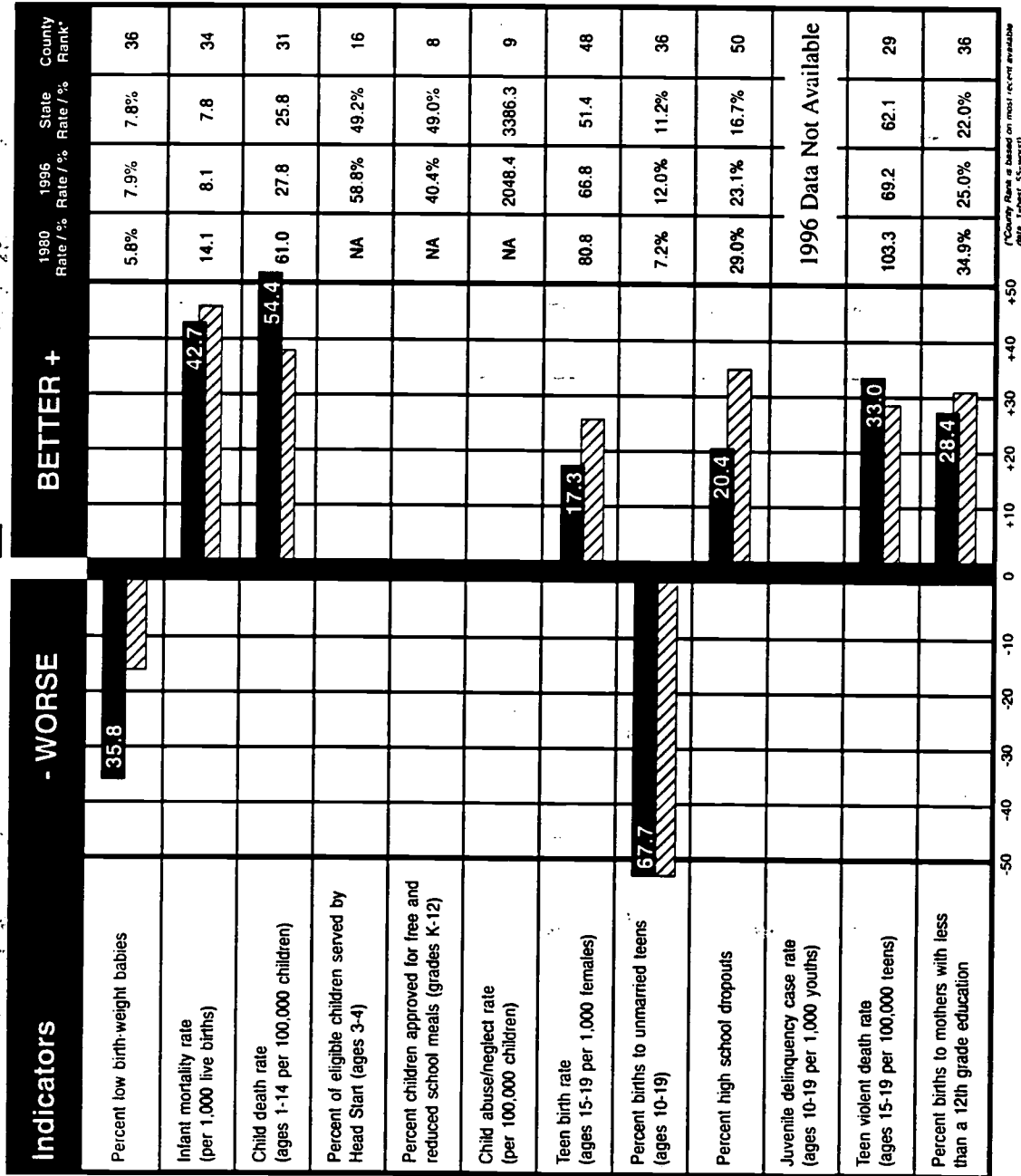
Berkeley County

Composite County Rank

37

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	46,775	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,001		\$5,599	39.9%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	7.4%		10.1%	35.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.5%		82.0%	13.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	6,832		8,062	18.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	7,381		15,161	105.4%
Unemployment rate	8.8%		5.4%	-38.6%
Total population under age 18	13,776		16,643	20.8%
Percent population under age 18	29.5%		24.5%	-16.7%
Percent minority population	4.3%		5.3%	23.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	5.0%		6.3%	26.1%

Background Facts

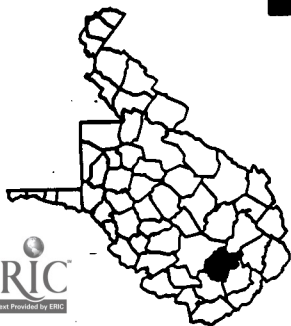
Percent children in single-parent families	13.0%	1980	1990	% Change
			17.7%	36.3%
Percent children in poverty	18.6%	1980	1995	% Change
			20.2%	8.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$28,052	1980	1990	% Change
			\$32,040	14.2%

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Boone County

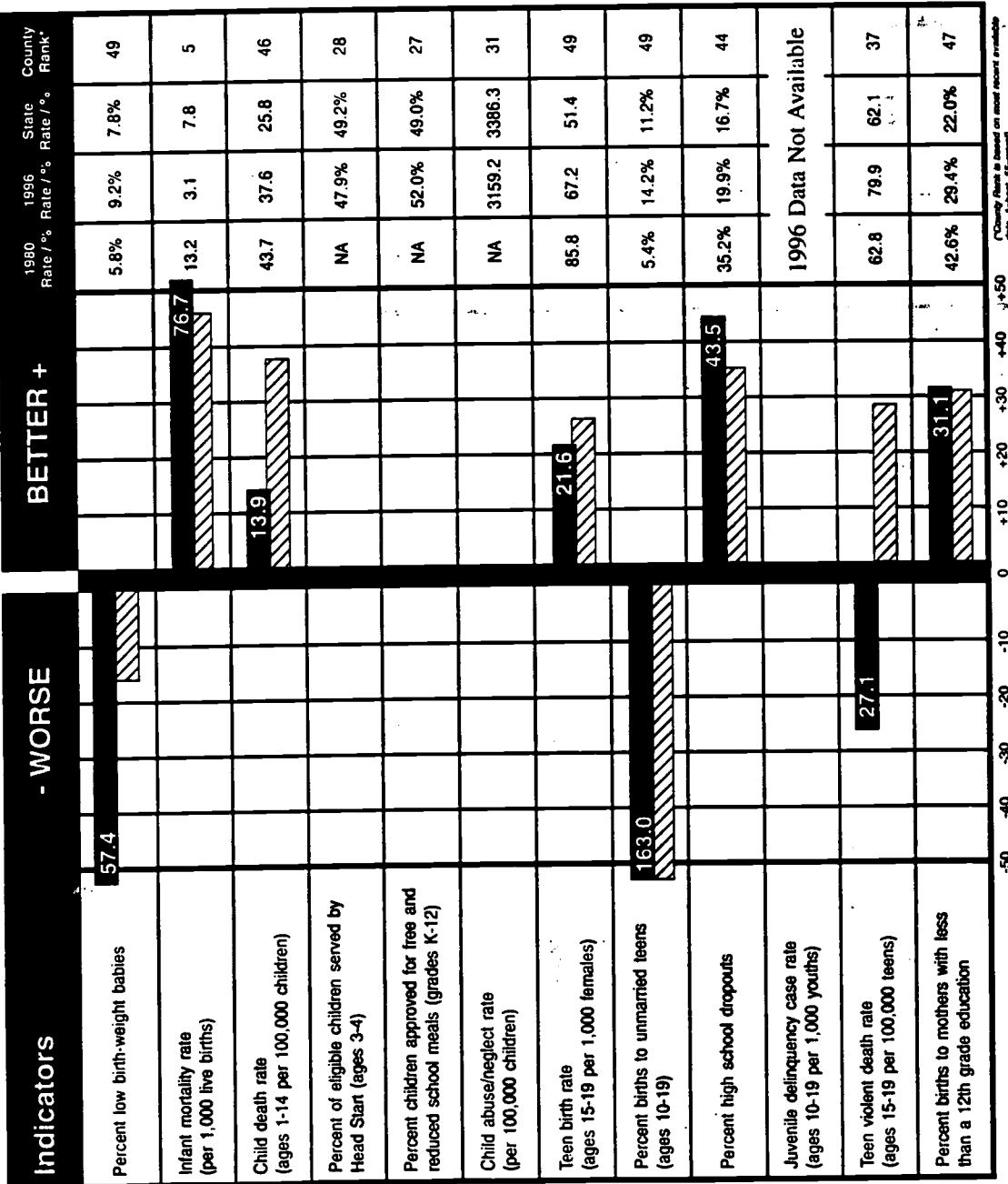
Composite County Rank

49

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



48

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WV KIDS COUNT

49

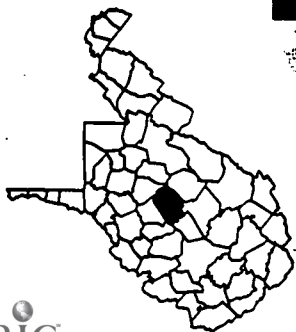
Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	30,447	26,431	-13.2%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,978	\$6,837	71.9%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	9.7%	20.4%	110.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	64.3%	70.6%	9.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	7,172	4,611	-35.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,146	3,247	51.3%
Unemployment rate	7.0%	9.8%	40.0%
Total population under age 18	9,947	6,699	-32.7%
Percent population under age 18	32.7%	25.3%	-22.4%
Percent minority population	1.3%	1.4%	9.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.2%	1.6%	29.0%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.8%	16.3%	51.5%
Percent children in poverty	17.7%	33.9%	91.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$28,412	\$21,221	-25.3%

*Compliments of
Pratt Mining*



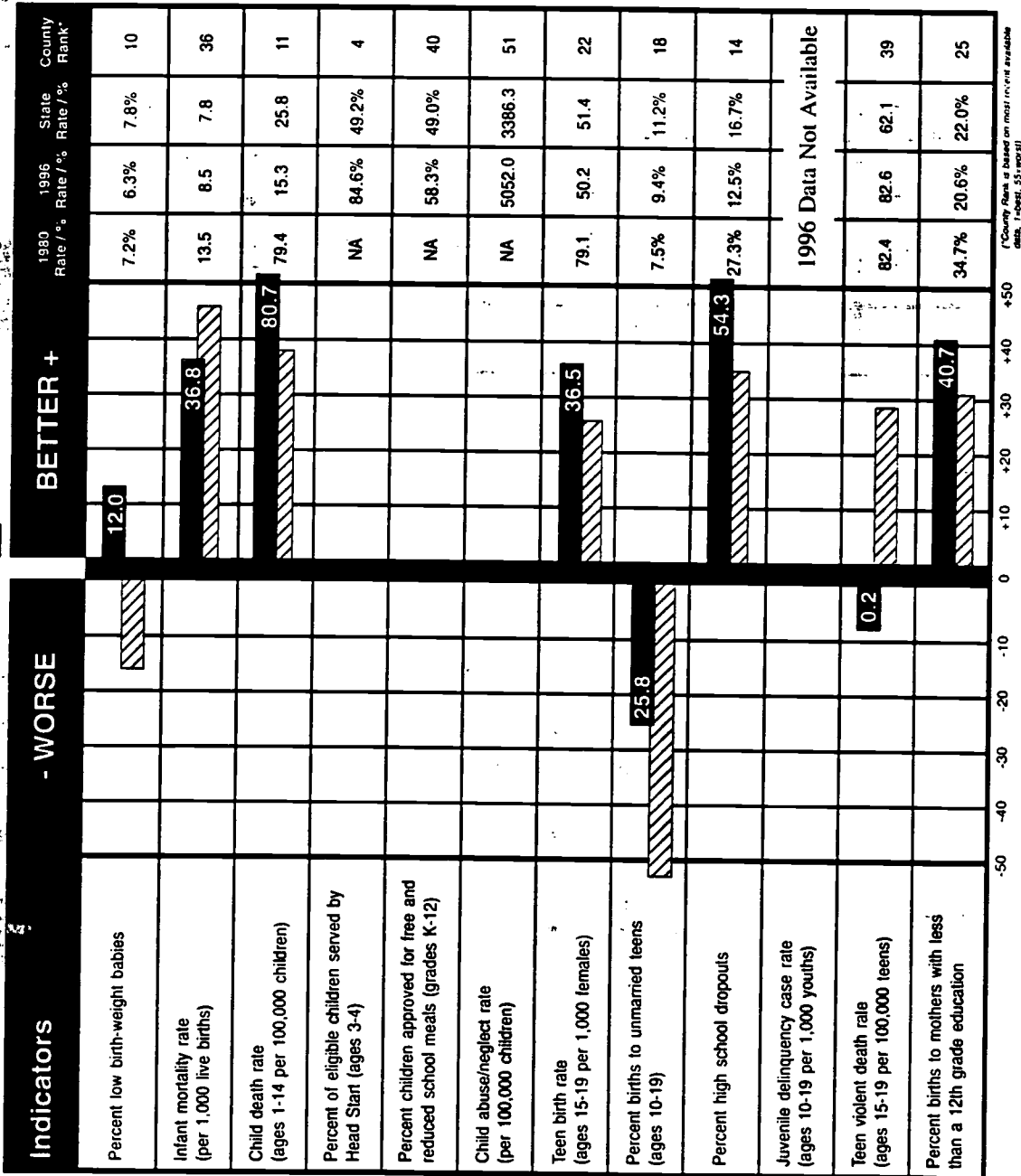
Braxton County

Composite County Rank

19

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



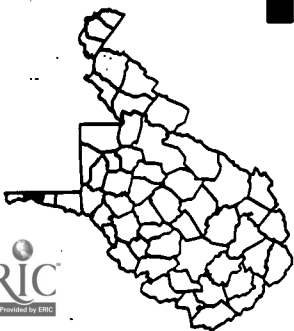
Background Facts

Total population	13,894	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,975		\$6,069	52.7%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	10.7%		16.3%	51.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.8%		80.9%	19.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,112		1,711	53.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,545		2,807	81.7%
Unemployment rate	16.4%		11.8%	-28.0%
Total population under age 18	4,005		3,228	-19.4%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%		24.1%	-16.4%
Percent minority population	0.7%		1.1%	56.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.7%		1.5%	101.1%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	12.7%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	27.5%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$18,572	1980	1990	% Change
	\$20,365			9.7%

*Compliments of
Schwabe-May*



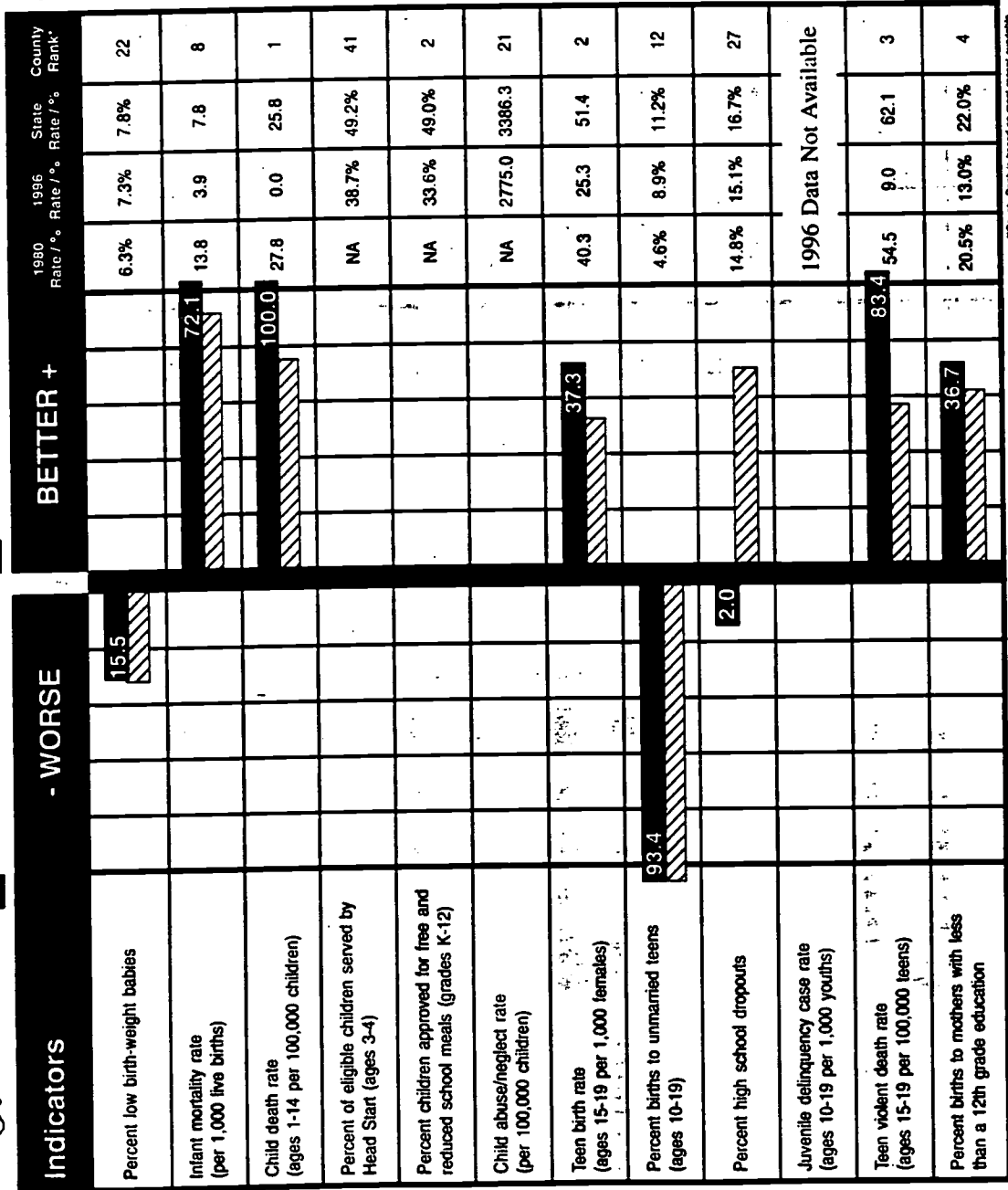
Brooke County

Composite County Rank

1

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Legend: Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterned bars indicate state percent change.



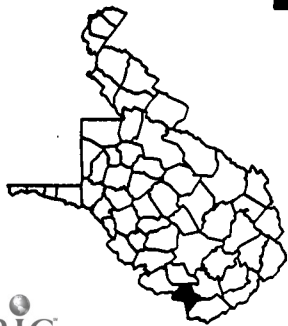
Background Facts

Total population	31,117	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,672		\$6,506	77.2%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.2%		10.3%	24.8%
Percent births with early prenatal care	80.5%		82.3%	2.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,463		4,259	-22.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,380		4,909	45.2%
Unemployment rate	9.8%		5.7%	-41.8%
Total population under age 18	8,496		5,578	-34.3%
Percent population under age 18	27.3%		21.1%	-22.8%
Percent minority population	1.0%		1.5%	41.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.9%		1.7%	93.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.4%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	12.8%	1980	1990	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$34,126	1980	1990	% Change
	\$31,407			-8.0%

*Compliments of
Doug Ball
and
Acordia*



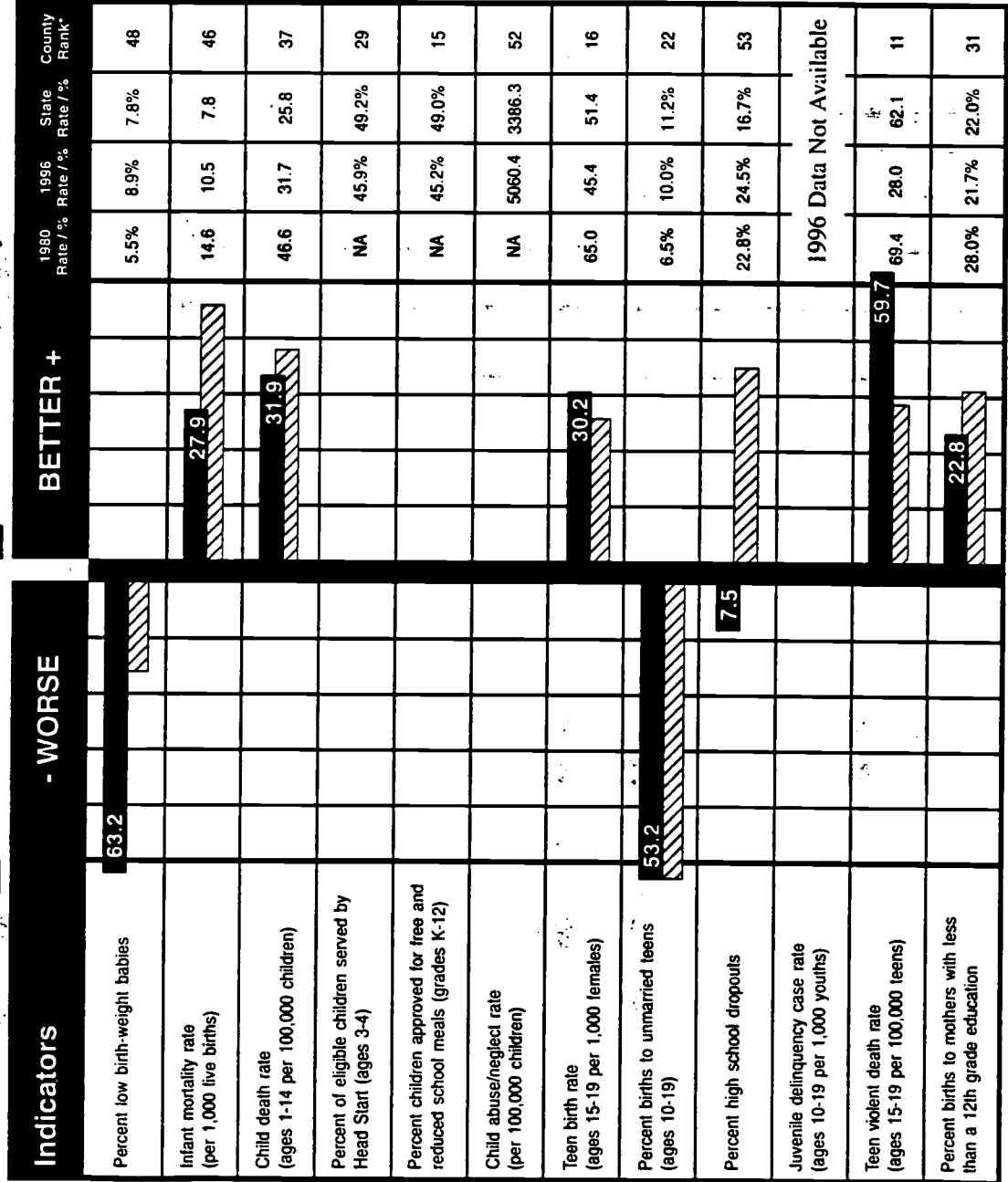
Cabell County

Composite County Rank

33

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



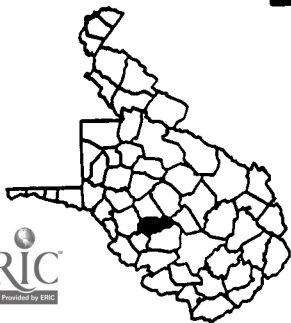
Background Facts

Total population	106,835	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,789		\$6,388	68.6%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	10.5%		17.3%	64.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	68.3%		88.4%	29.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	22,979		16,220	-29.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	26,086		36,555	40.1%
Unemployment rate	9.3%		6.2%	-33.3%
Total population under age 18	27,193		19,421	-28.6%
Percent population under age 18	25.5%		20.2%	-20.5%
Percent minority population	4.9%		5.3%	9.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	5.7%		6.8%	20.7%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	15.4%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	16.5%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$27,288	1980	1990	% Change
	\$28,090			2.9%

Compliments of
Al Crown
and
CSX



Calhoun County

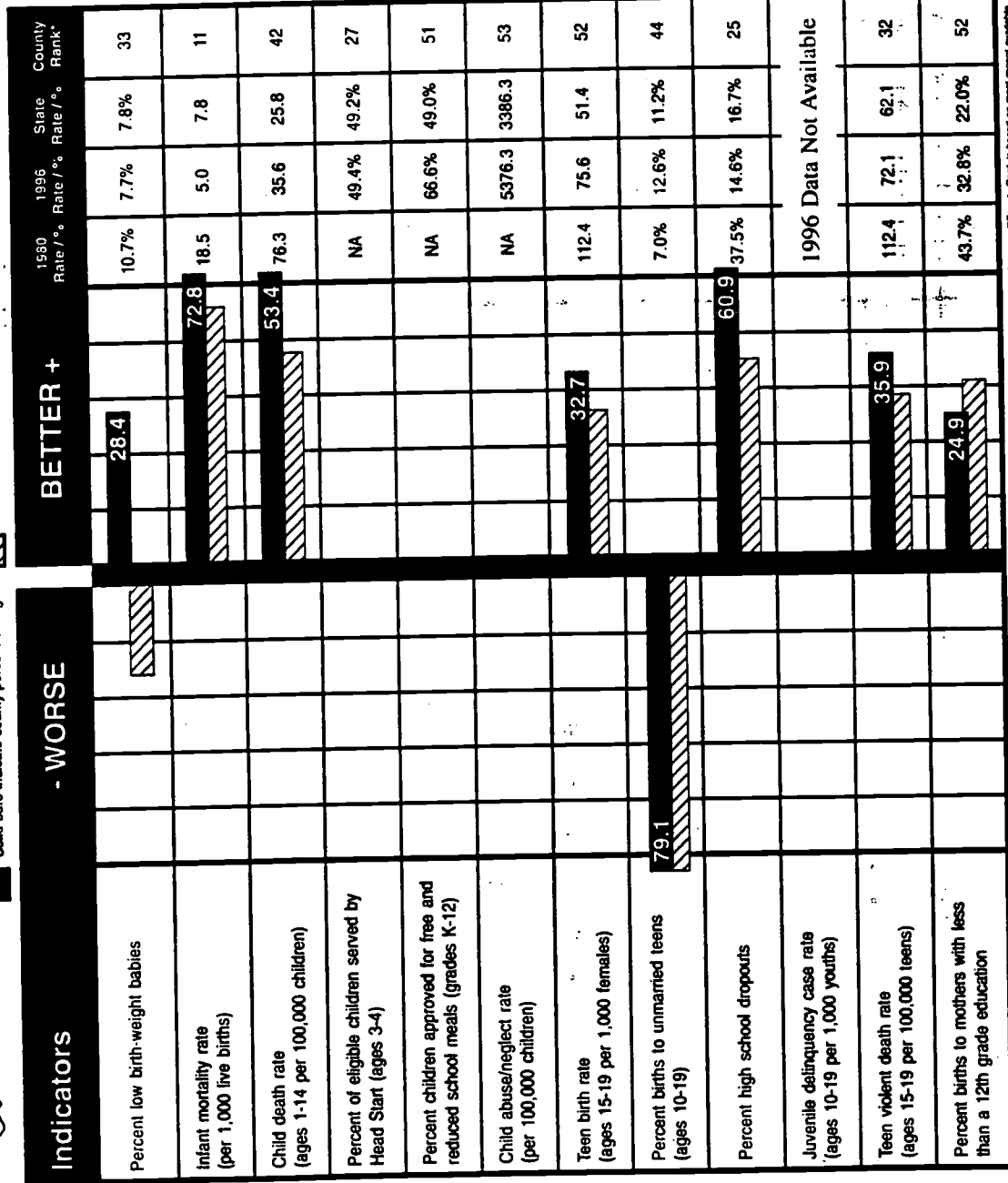
Composite County Rank

46

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



56

Background Facts

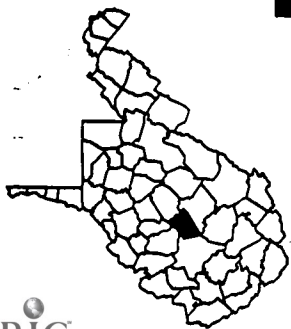
Total population	8,250	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,266			-3.5%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	12.7%			49.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.1%			40.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,009			-11.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	668			20.2%
Unemployment rate	15.0%			26.0%
Total population under age 18	2,380			27.3%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%			-15.9%
Percent minority population	0.8%			-12.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%			0.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%			21.7%
				NM

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	13.2%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	34.4%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$17,837	1980	1990	% Change
				-0.9%



Minnie Hamilton Health Care Center



Clay County

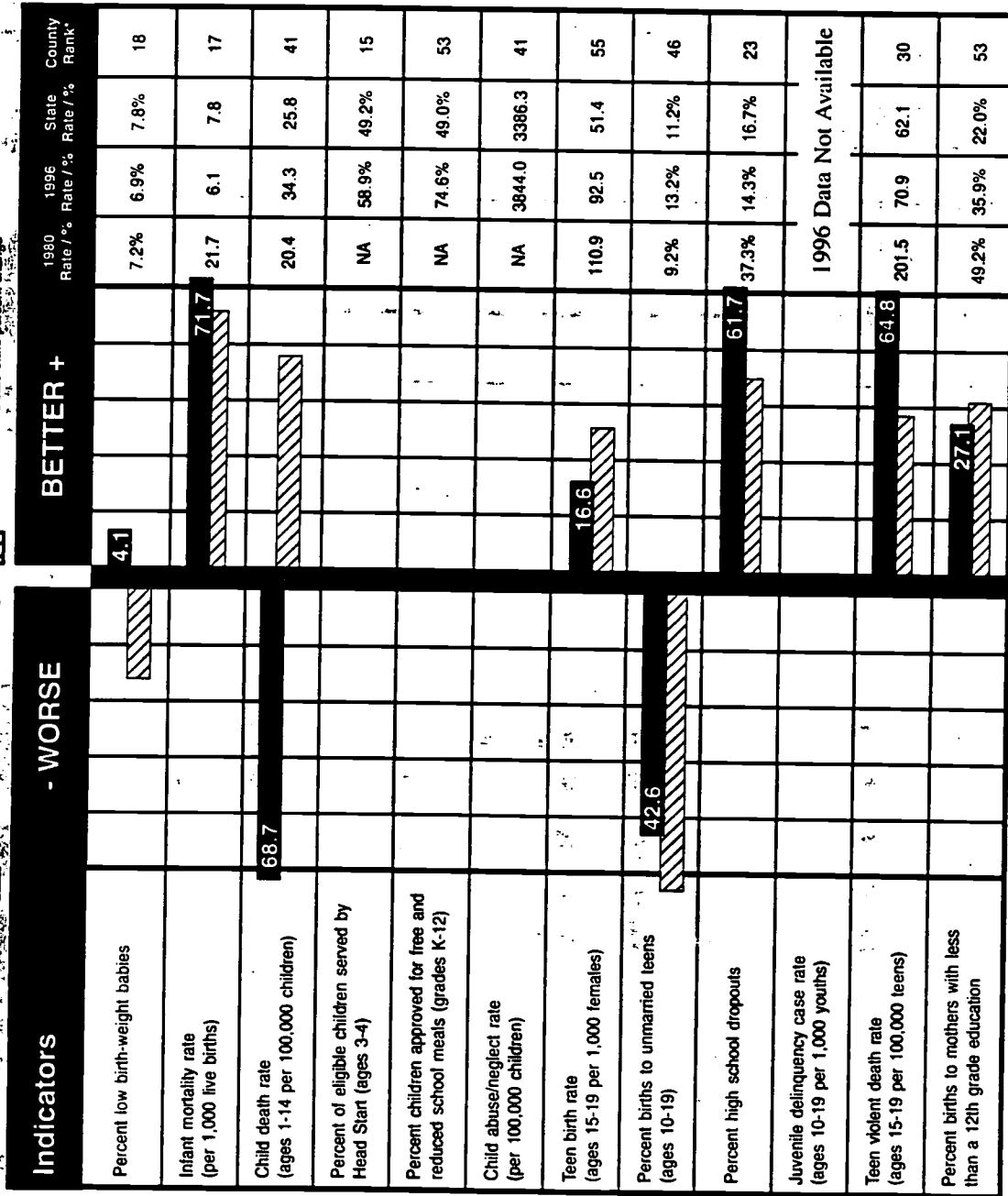
Composite County Rank

52

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



-50 -40 -30 -20 -10 0 +10 +20 +30 +40 +50 (County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1=best, 55=worst)

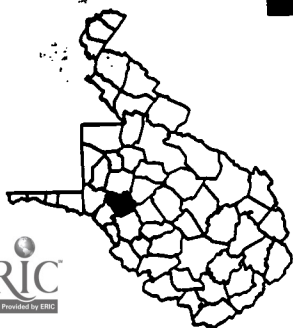
Background Facts

Total population	11,265	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,363		\$6,056	80.1%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	14.0%		22.6%	61.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	58.2%		74.2%	27.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	530		867	63.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	525		920	75.2%
Unemployment rate	15.7%		13.4%	-14.6%
Total population under age 18	3,876		2,892	-25.4%
Percent population under age 18	34.4%		27.9%	-18.9%
Percent minority population	0.2%		0.5%	185.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%		0.4%	NM

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.1%	1980	1996	% Change
Percent children in poverty	37.0%	1980	47.6%	28.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$17,322	1980	\$16,130	-6.9%

*Compliments of
Margaret Cline*



Doddridge County

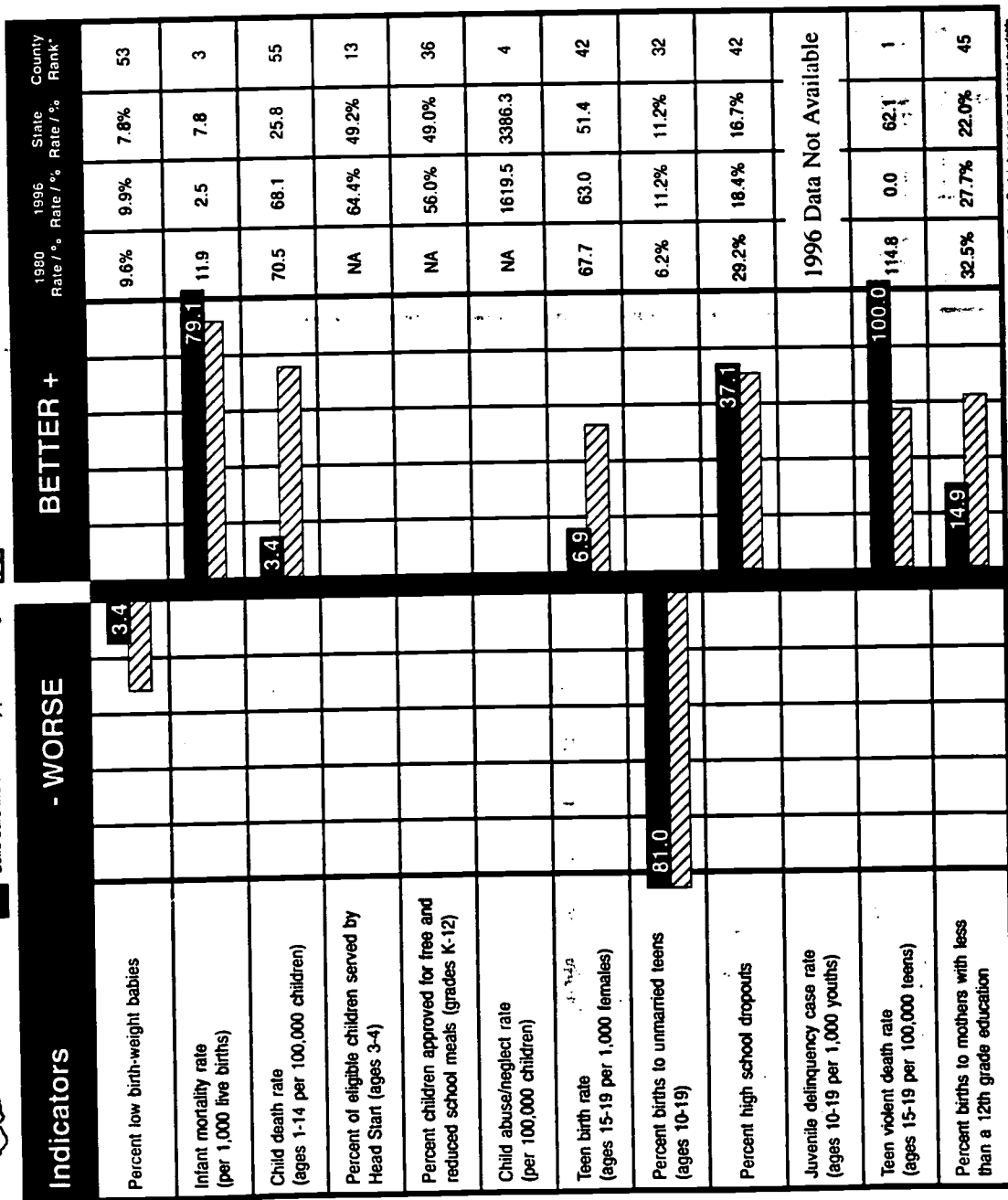
Composite County Rank

44

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data. (Solid, 1996; Patterned, 1980)

WV KIDS COUNT

Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	7,433	7,247	-2.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,119	\$6,794	64.9%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	9.5%	14.7%	54.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.5%	88.1%	13.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	650	754	16.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	413	604	46.2%
Unemployment rate	8.5%	7.3%	-14.1%
Total population under age 18	2,281	1,805	-20.9%
Percent population under age 18	30.7%	24.9%	-18.8%
Percent minority population	0.4%	0.9%	135.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	1.3%	NM

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.3%	13.3%	29.1%
Percent children in poverty	27.1%	32.0%	18.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$18,972	\$19,830	4.5%

Compliments of
TARGA DEVELOPMENT, INC.



Fayette County

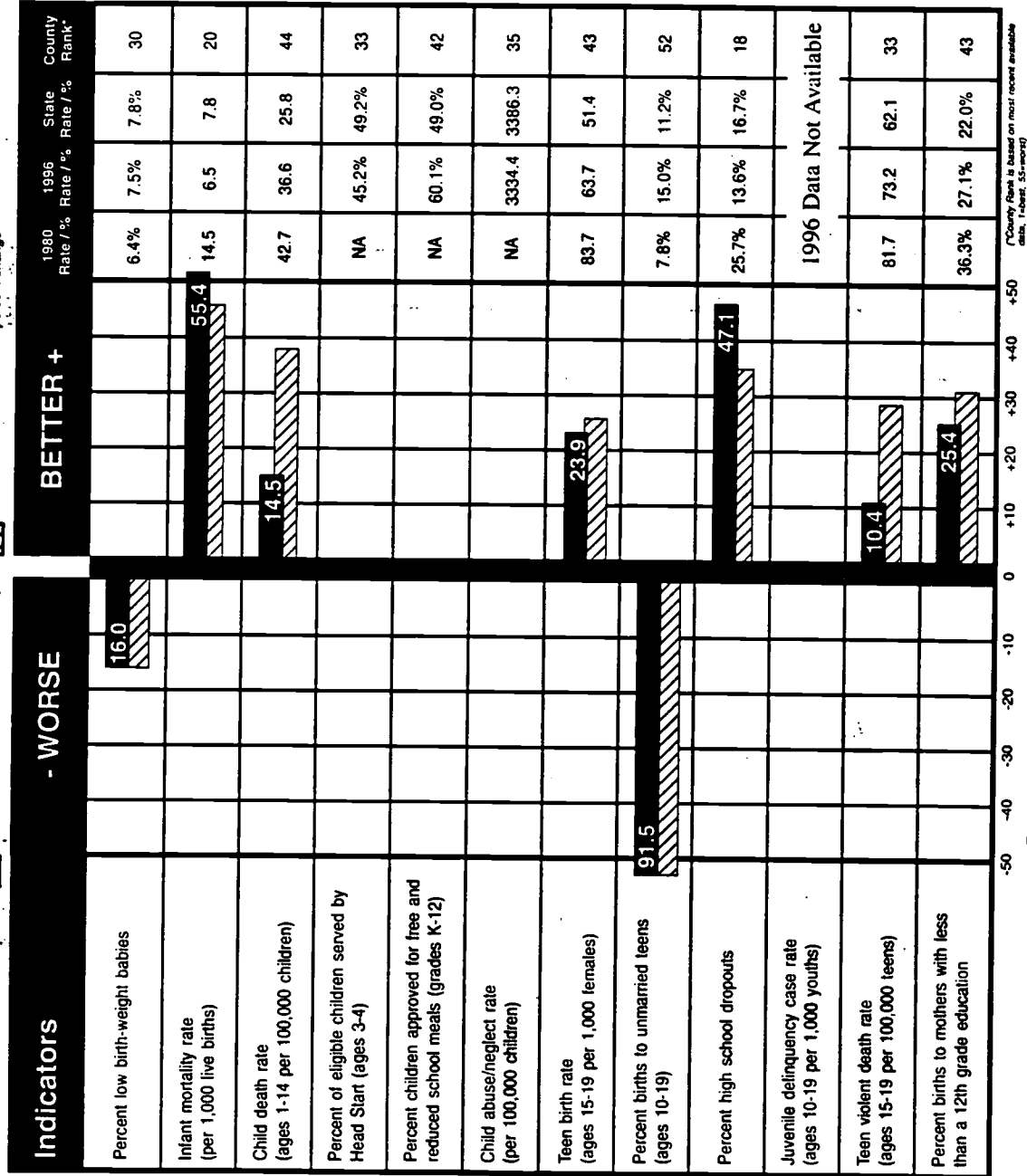
Composite County Rank

43

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Indicators

- WORSE

BETTER +

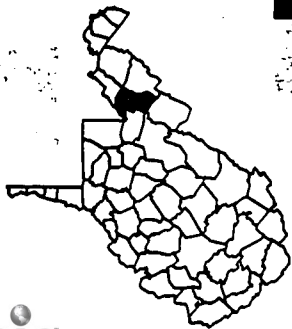
Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	57,863	48,899	-15.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,428	\$6,142	79.2%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	14.3%	19.3%	35.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	53.2%	77.8%	46.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,599	4,216	-24.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	6,126	8,256	34.8%
Unemployment rate	14.2%	9.6%	-32.4%
Total population under age 18	17,154	11,400	-33.5%
Percent population under age 18	29.6%	23.3%	-21.4%
Percent minority population	7.9%	7.7%	-2.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	8.3%	8.1%	-2.4%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	13.0%	19.4%	49.5%
Percent children in poverty	22.4%	37.8%	66.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$23,388	\$20,848	-10.9%

*Compliments of
West Virginia Surface Mining
and Reclamation Association*



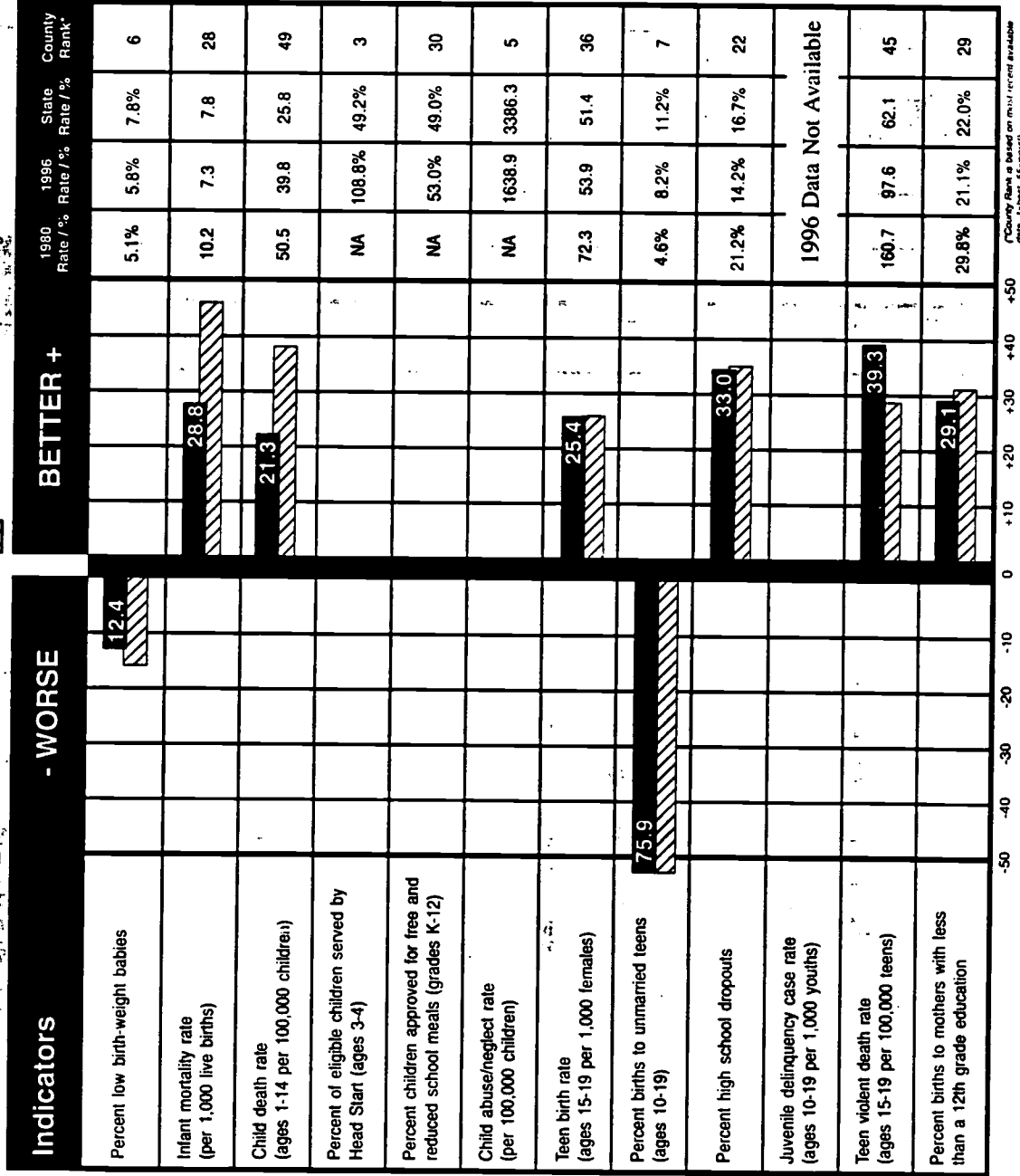
Grant County

Composite County Rank

24

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



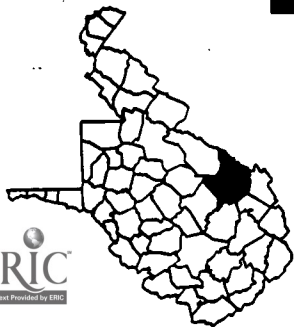
Background Facts

Total population	10,210	11,092	8.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,713	\$5,521	17.1%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	7.3%	5.5%	-25.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	82.1%	86.4%	5.3%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,918	2,925	0.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,146	1,833	59.9%
Unemployment rate	7.8%	10.6%	35.9%
Total population under age 18	3,117	2,603	-16.5%
Percent population under age 18	30.5%	23.5%	-23.1%
Percent minority population	1.5%	1.9%	27.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.3%	2.0%	45.4%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	8.1%	15.0%	83.8%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1990	% Change
	25.7%	21.2%	-17.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$20,474	\$25,327	23.7%

*Compliments of
Pete Moran
and
Princess Beverly Coal*



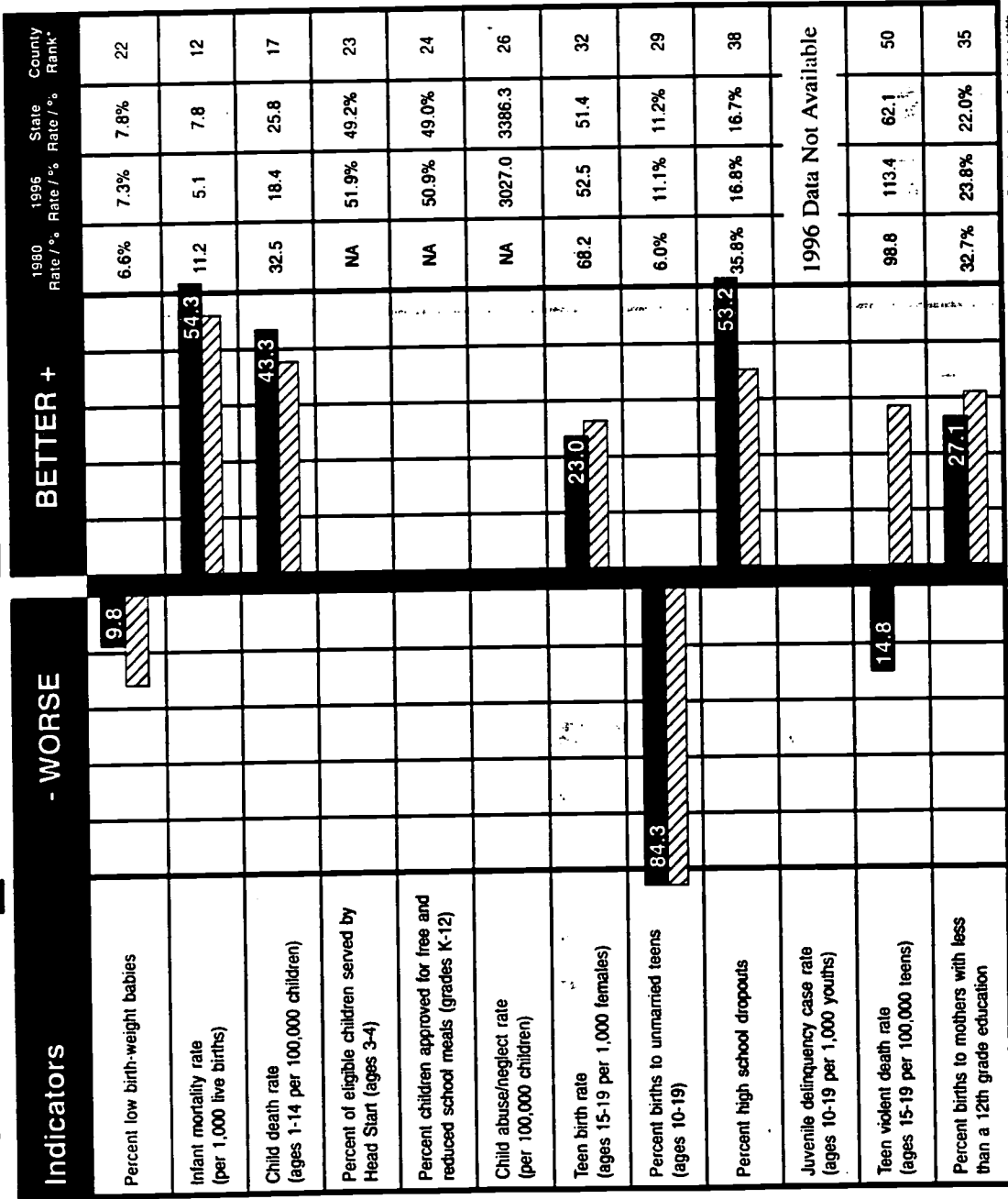
Greenbrier County

Composite County Rank

27

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	37,665	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,875		\$5,752	48.4%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	5.6%		9.1%	62.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	53.5%		82.9%	55.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	4,195		3,671	-12.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	7,014		10,076	43.7%
Unemployment rate	11.7%		8.6%	-26.5%
Total population under age 18	10,666		7,866	-26.3%
Percent population under age 18	28.3%		22.1%	-22.1%
Percent minority population	4.4%		4.5%	0.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.8%		4.9%	3.0%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.6%	1980	1995	% Change
Percent children in poverty	16.1%	1980	28.7%	78.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$23,125	1980	\$23,819	3.0%

*Compliments of
Hamilton Industries*



Hampshire County

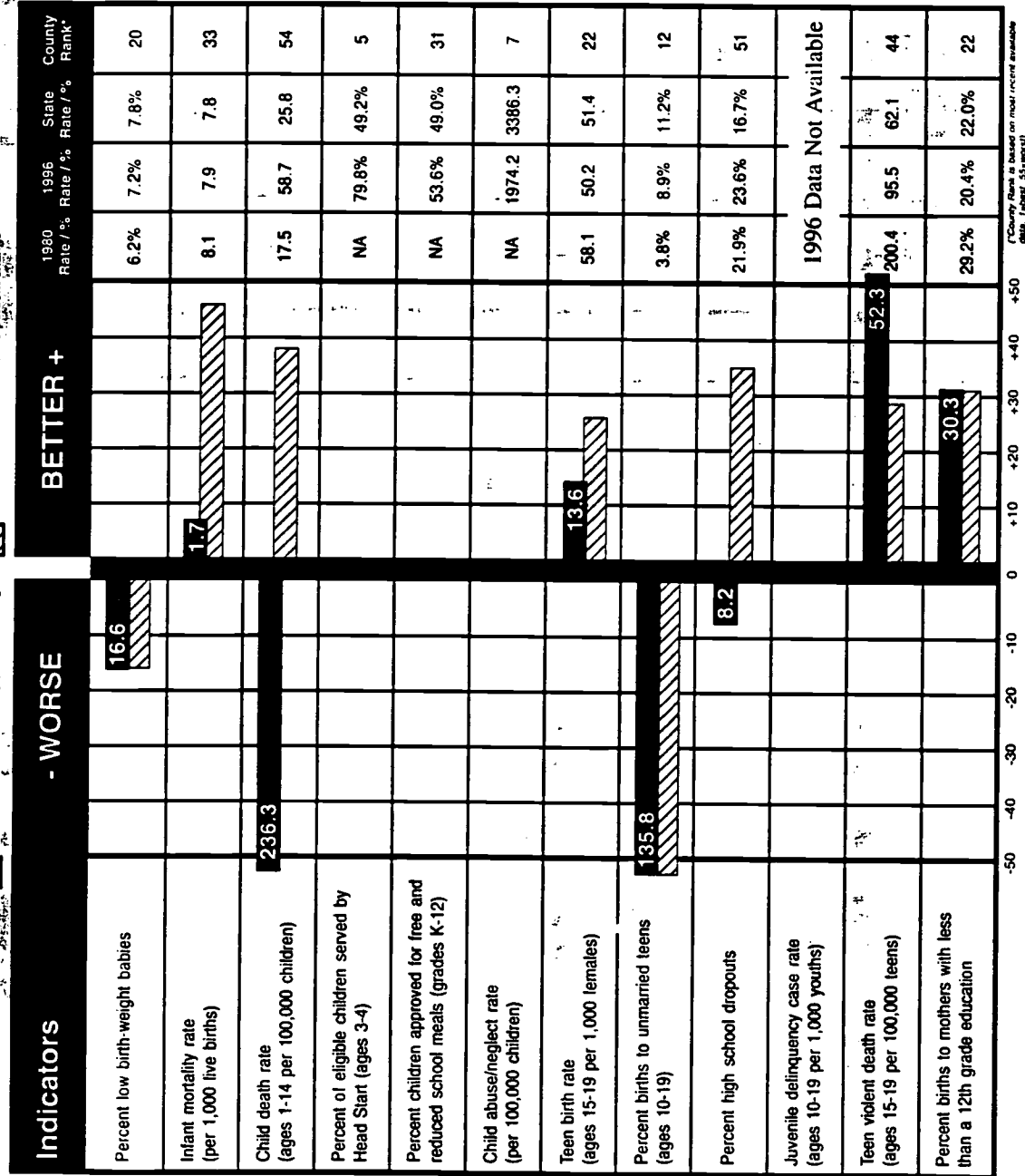
Composite County Rank

40

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



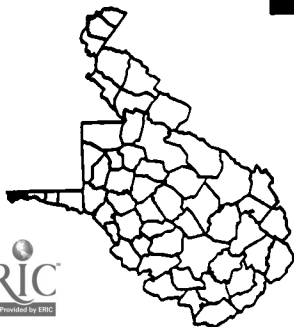
Background Facts

Total population	14,867	18,659	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,664	\$5,266		43.7%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.4%	11.1%		33.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	83.4%	82.0%		-1.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,434	1,516		5.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,527	2,957		93.6%
Unemployment rate	7.0%	4.6%		-34.3%
Total population under age 18	4,593	4,599		0.1%
Percent population under age 18	30.9%	24.6%		-20.2%
Percent minority population	1.0%	1.7%		64.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.1%	2.3%		114.0%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	9.9%	14.0%	40.9%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1990	% Change
	20.0%	25.9%	29.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$22,377	\$24,164	8.0%

A Allegheny Power



Hancock County

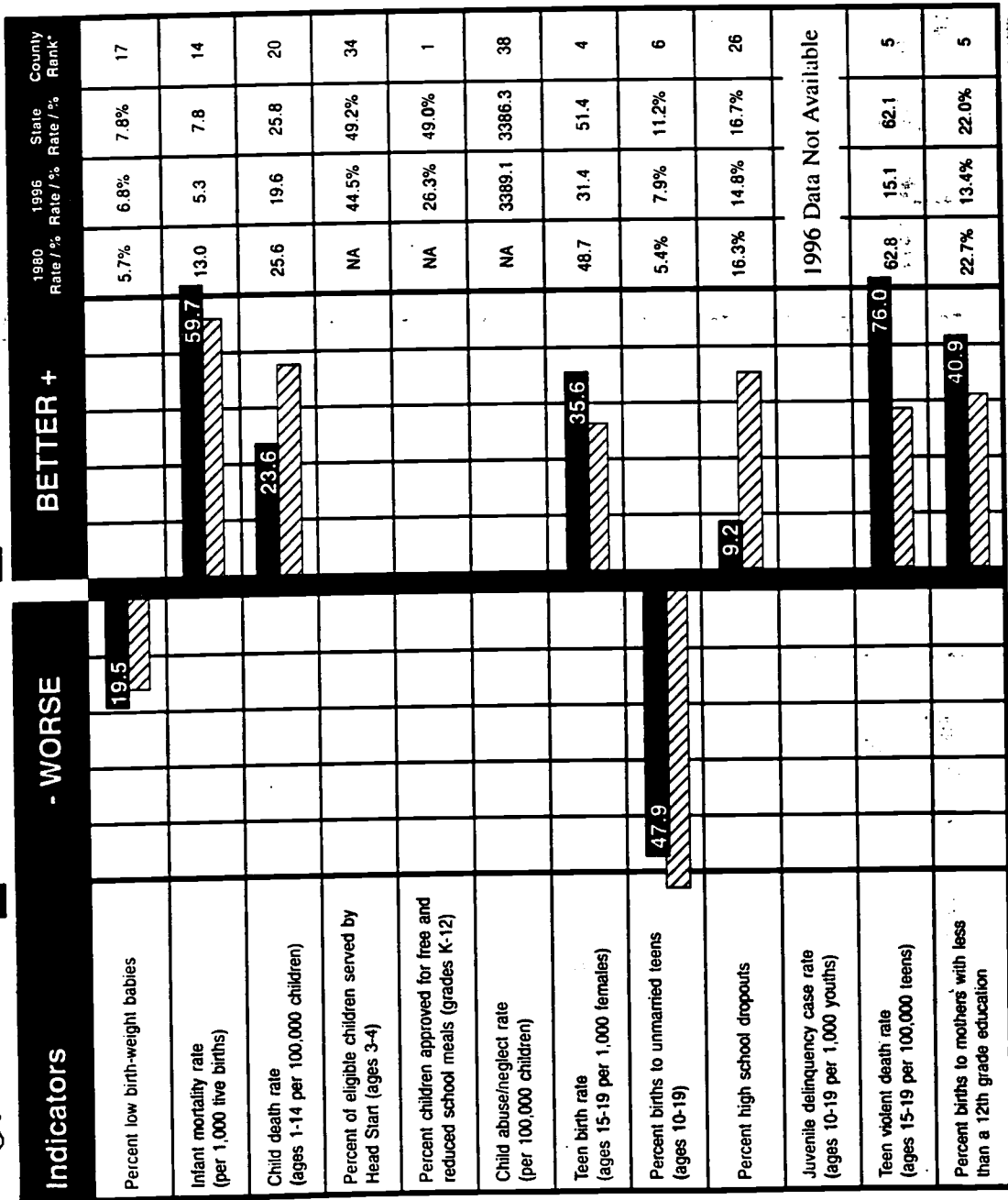
Composite County Rank

2

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



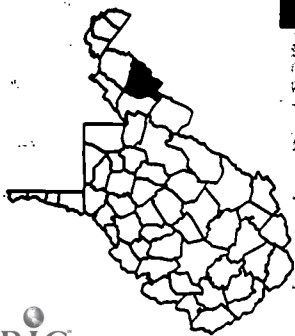
Background Facts

Total population	40,418	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,783		\$6,296	66.4%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	7.5%		10.5%	40.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.9%		86.1%	13.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	15,223		9,103	-40.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	6,665		8,057	20.9%
Unemployment rate	8.3%		6.1%	-26.5%
Total population under age 18	11,311		7,479	-33.9%
Percent population under age 18	28.0%		21.5%	-23.0%
Percent minority population	3.1%		3.6%	19.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	3.2%		4.2%	28.2%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.8%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	9.1%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$36,466	1980	1990	% Change
	\$30,576			-16.2%

*Compliments of
Fred Haddad*



Hardy County

Composite County Rank

15

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE	BETTER +	1980 Rate / %	1996 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	34.9		5.0%	6.7%	7.8%	16
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)		41.0	12.3	7.2	7.8	25
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	5.1		19.0	20.0	25.8	21
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)			NA	160.5%	49.2%	2
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)			NA	49.9%	49.0%	22
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)			NA	2622.9	3386.3	16
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)		15.3	62.8	53.2	51.4	34
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	13.7		6.8%	7.7%	11.2%	4
Percent high school dropouts		51.5	23.5%	11.4%	16.7%	7
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)			1996 Data Not Available			
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)	374.0		22.3	105.7	62.1	48
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education		44.0	30.8%	17.2%	22.0%	12

*County Rank is based on most recent available data. Legend: SS=most

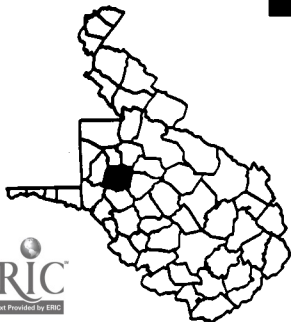
Background Facts

Total population	10,030	11,746	17.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,303	\$5,845	35.8%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.7%	6.3%	-27.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	82.6%	83.9%	1.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,977	4,056	105.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,046	1,866	78.4%
Unemployment rate	7.1%	4.1%	-42.3%
Total population under age 18	2,797	2,608	-6.8%
Percent population under age 18	27.9%	22.2%	-20.4%
Percent minority population	2.1%	2.8%	32.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	2.0%	3.0%	47.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.3%	14.4%	39.0%
Percent children in poverty	23.1%	19.1%	-17.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$20,309	\$25,843	27.2%

*Compliments of
Mr. & Mrs. Joe B. Holland, Sr.*



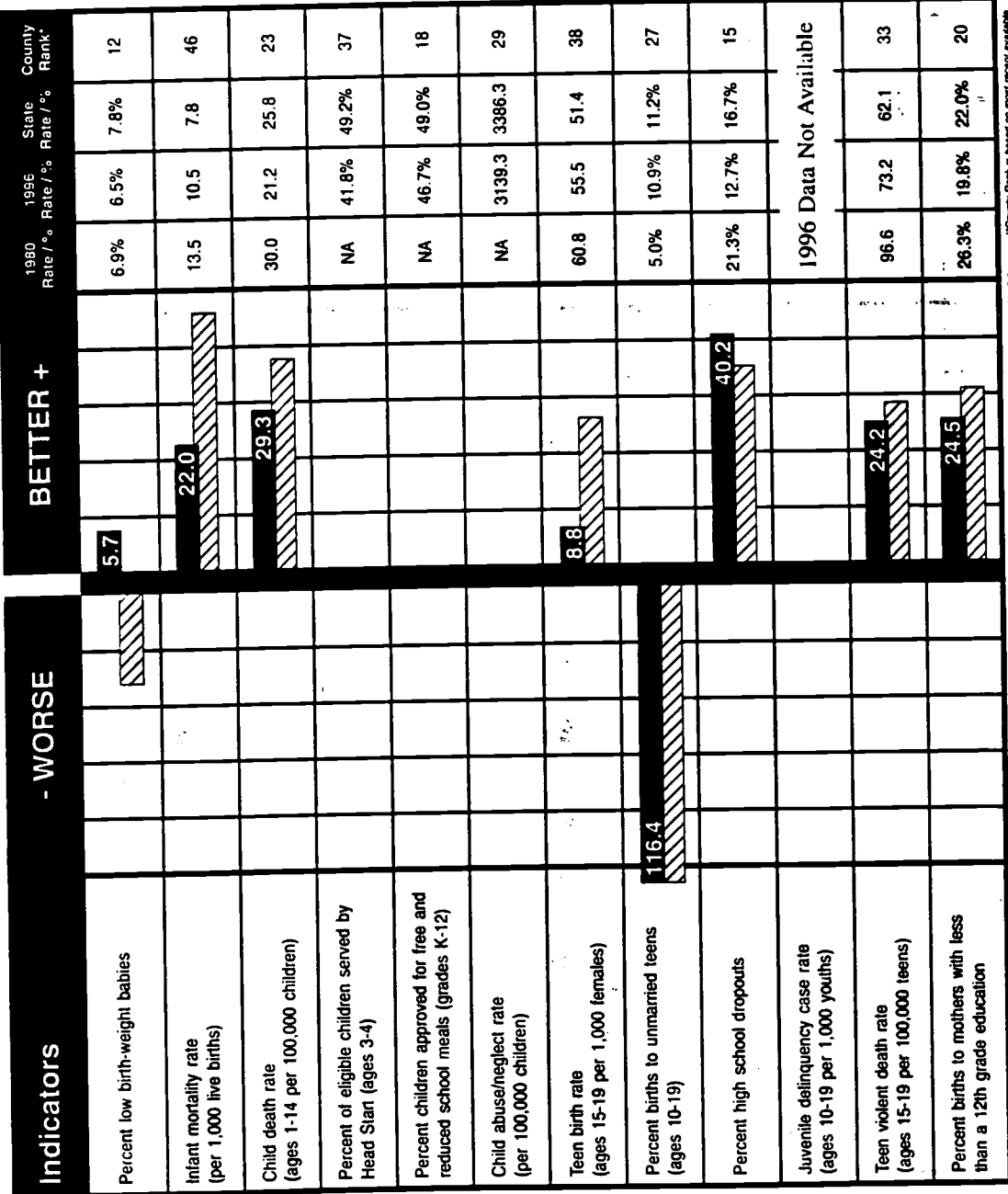
Harrison County

Composite County Rank

23

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



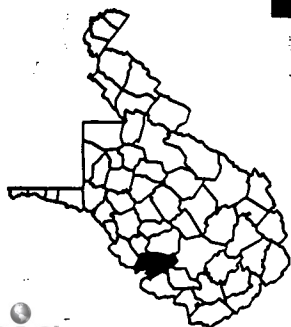
Background Facts

Total population	77,710	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,653		\$6,370	74.4%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	9.7%		15.3%	57.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	82.5%		87.0%	5.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	13,639		10,930	-19.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	14,501		20,180	39.2%
Unemployment rate	8.4%		8.0%	-4.8%
Total population under age 18	21,248		16,155	-24.0%
Percent population under age 18	27.3%		22.8%	-16.6%
Percent minority population	1.7%		3.2%	88.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	2.0%		3.5%	77.2%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	12.3%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	17.9%	1980	30.0%	67.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$25,578	1980	\$25,245	-1.3%

*Compliments of
Mt. View Construction
and
Steve's Car Corral*

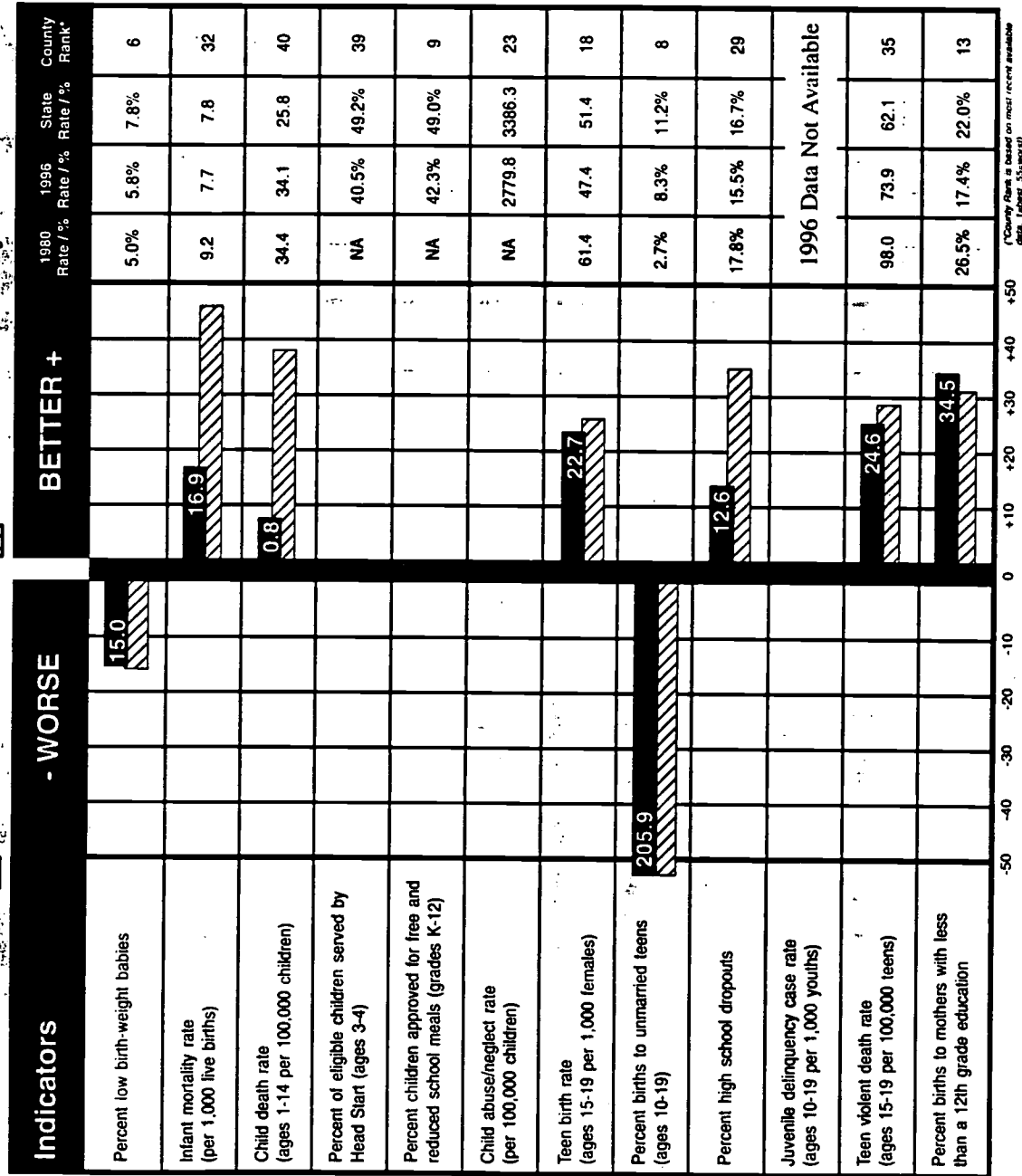


Jackson County

Composite County Rank **12**

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Indicators

- WORSE

BETTER +

Background Facts

1980 1996 % Change

25,794 27,310 5.9%

\$4,034 \$6,440 59.7%

4.3% 12.1% 188.1%

72.2% 83.2% 15.1%

5,773 4,573 -20.8%

2,842 5,276 85.6%

11.5% 7.6% -33.9%

7,868 6,594 -16.2%

30.5% 24.1% -20.8%

0.3% 0.8% 136.7%

0.4% 1.1% 160.3%

Background Facts

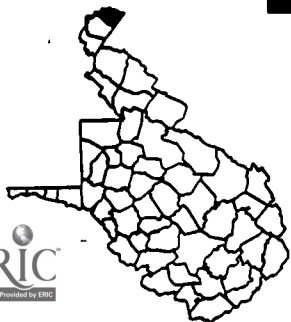
1980 1990 % Change

9.3% 15.1% 62.7%

13.6% 26.4% 94.1%

\$30,026 \$25,121 -16.3%

Columbia Gas
TransmissionSM



Jefferson County

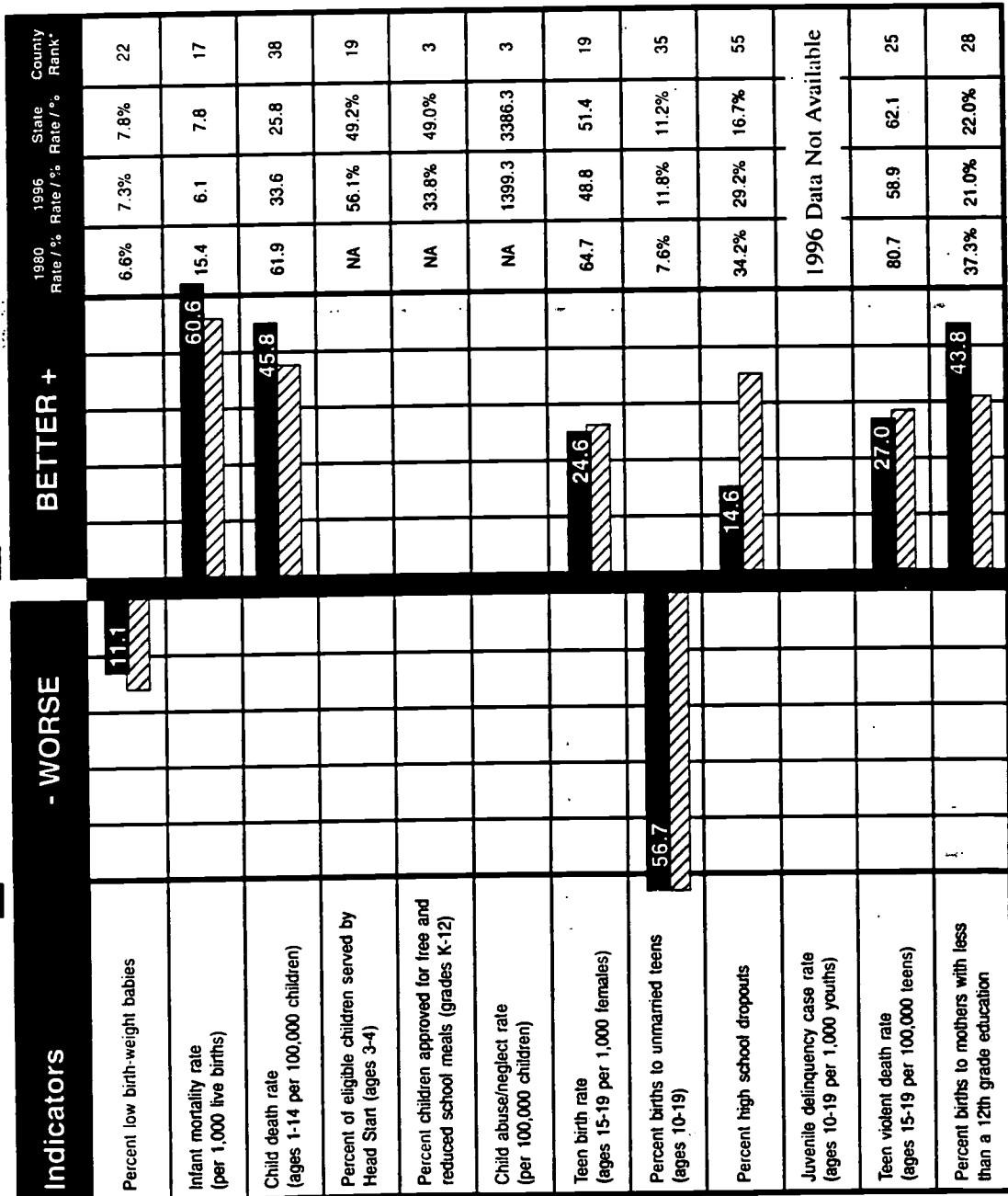
Composite County Rank

30

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data. 1=best, 55=worst

Background Facts

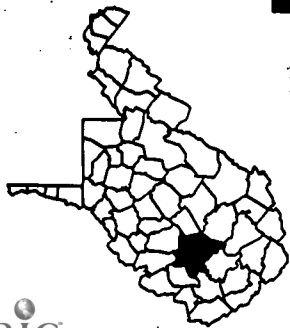
Total population	30,302	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,200		\$5,703	78.2%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.3%		9.0%	9.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.3%		84.7%	9.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,008		4,595	52.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	4,518		7,587	67.9%
Unemployment rate	6.3%		4.0%	-36.5%
Total population under age 18	8,915		9,575	7.4%
Percent population under age 18	29.4%		24.1%	-18.1%
Percent minority population	9.6%		9.5%	-1.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	12.1%		11.1%	-8.4%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	13.6%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	17.2%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$27,042	1980	1990	% Change
	\$34,887			29.0%

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WEST VIRGINIA'S BANK

Member FDIC



Kanawha County

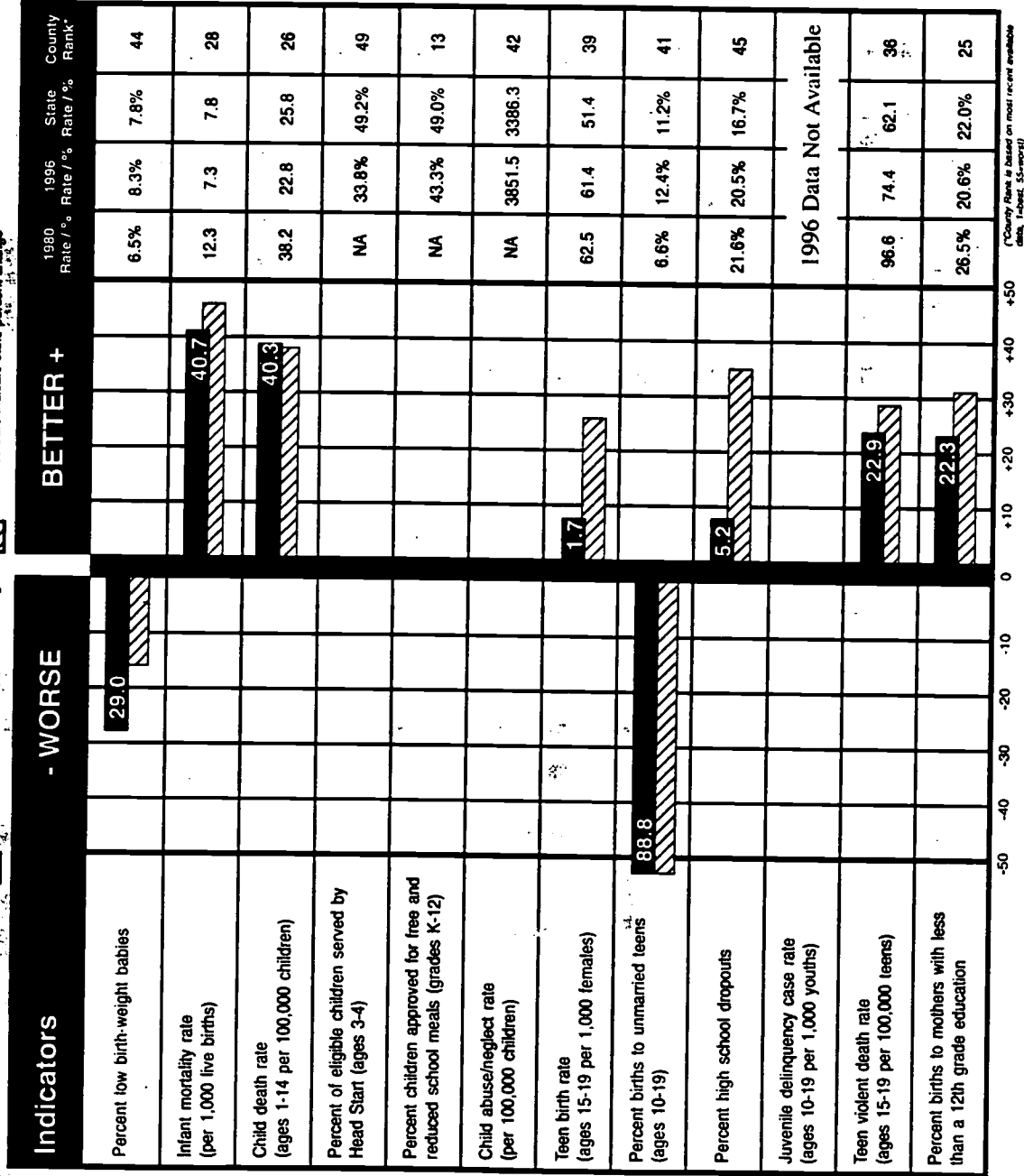
Composite County Rank

34

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



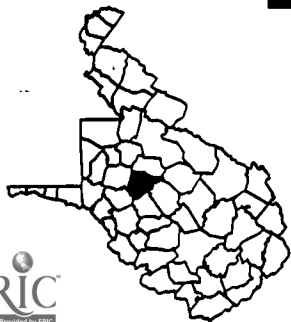
Background Facts

Total population	231,414	204,937	-11.4%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,154	\$5,889	41.7%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	7.9%	14.0%	77.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	71.3%	72.6%	1.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	47,860	35,527	-25.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	53,461	74,702	39.7%
Unemployment rate	7.2%	5.4%	-25.0%
Total population under age 18	60,714	44,356	-26.9%
Percent population under age 18	26.2%	21.6%	-17.5%
Percent minority population	6.7%	8.0%	19.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	7.9%	10.3%	30.7%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	13.8%	21.0%	52.6%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	13.4%	26.1%	94.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$31,334	\$30,030	-4.2%

*Compliments of
Hamilton Industries*



Lewis County

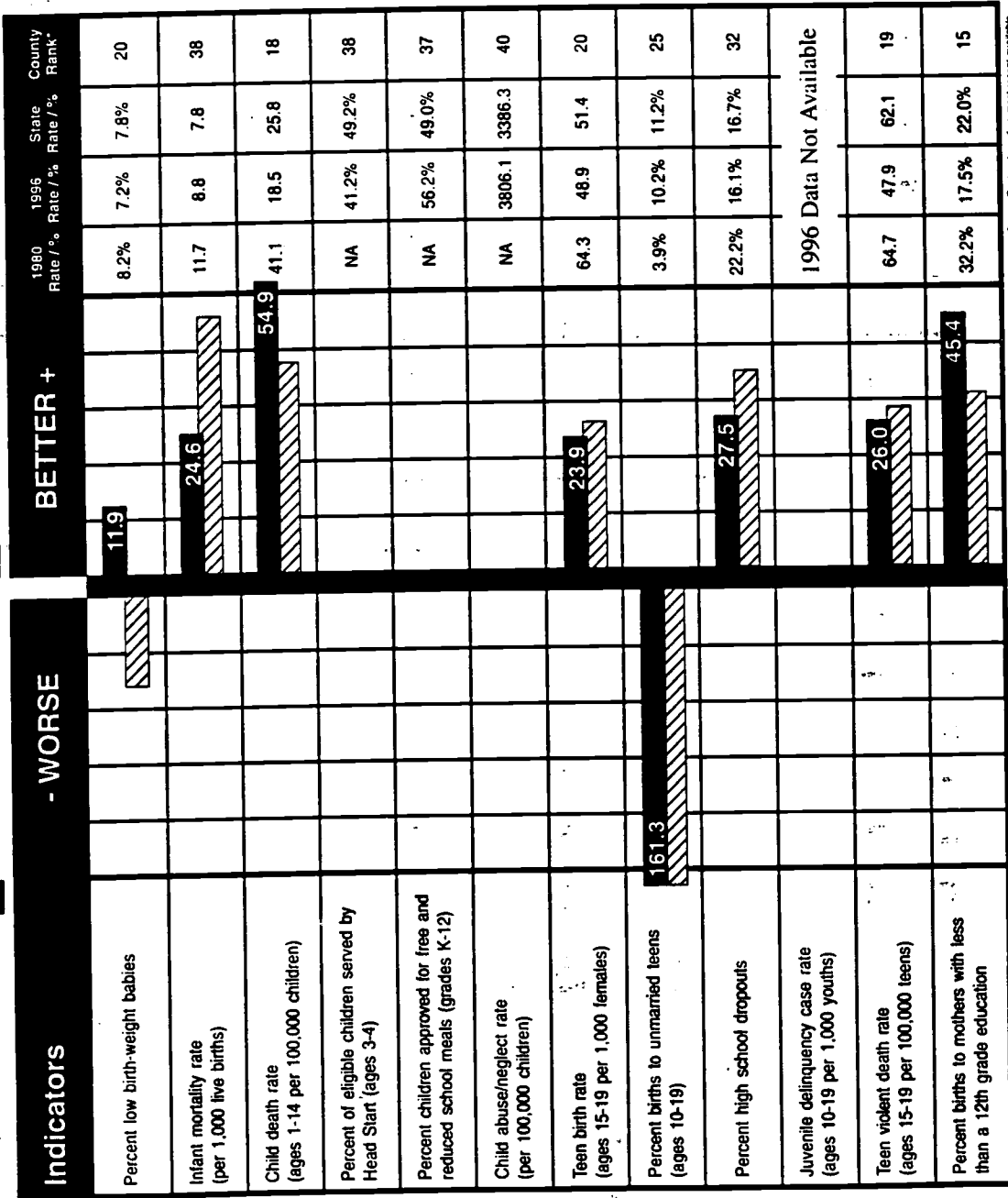
Composite County Rank

22

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	18,813	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,673		\$6,093	65.9%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	9.5%		14.6%	53.8%
Percent births with early prenatal care	79.6%		85.1%	6.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,638		2,195	-16.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,307		3,460	50.0%
Unemployment rate	10.0%		9.7%	-3.0%
Total population under age 18	5,165		3,969	-23.2%
Percent population under age 18	27.5%		22.6%	-17.7%
Percent minority population	0.7%		1.2%	54.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.6%		1.2%	93.2%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	12.7%	18.1%	42.5%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	19.8%	37.1%	87.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$23,066	\$22,273	-3.4%

Compliments of
Caplan's Jewelry
and



Weston Transfer, Inc.



Lincoln County

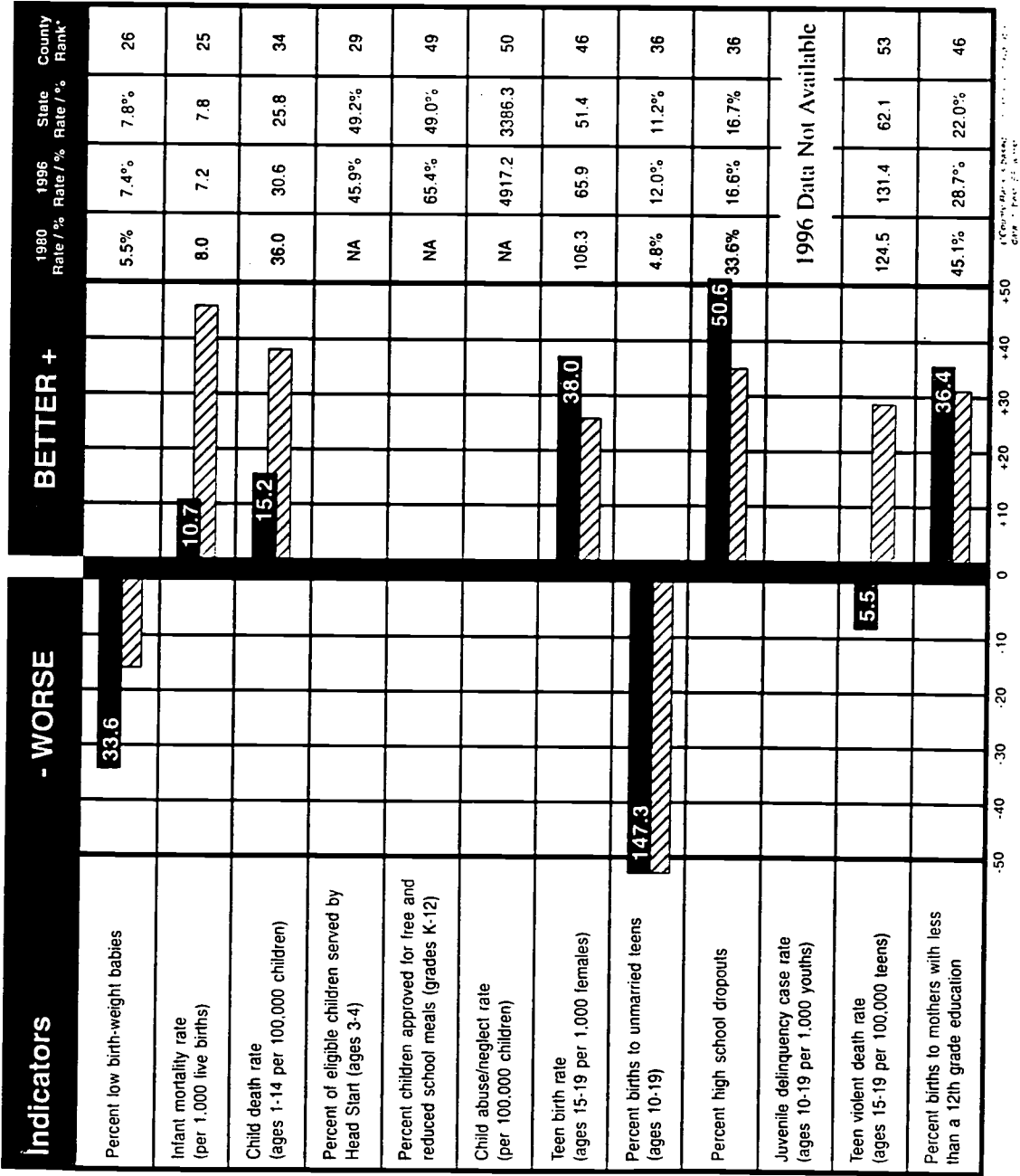
Composite County Rank

48

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	23,675	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,935		\$6,452	64.0%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	14.8%		23.9%	61.1%
Percent births with early prenatal care	56.3%		82.1%	45.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,014		1,237	22.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,099		1,732	57.6%
Unemployment rate	14.3%		12.4%	-13.3%
Total population under age 18	7,894		5,763	-27.0%
Percent population under age 18	33.3%		26.1%	-21.8%
Percent minority population	0.2%		0.5%	151.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%		0.5%	NM

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.2%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	28.8%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$21,166	1980	1990	% Change
	\$16,868			-20.3%

*Compliments of
Buck Harless
and
Gilbert Imported Hardwood*



Logan County

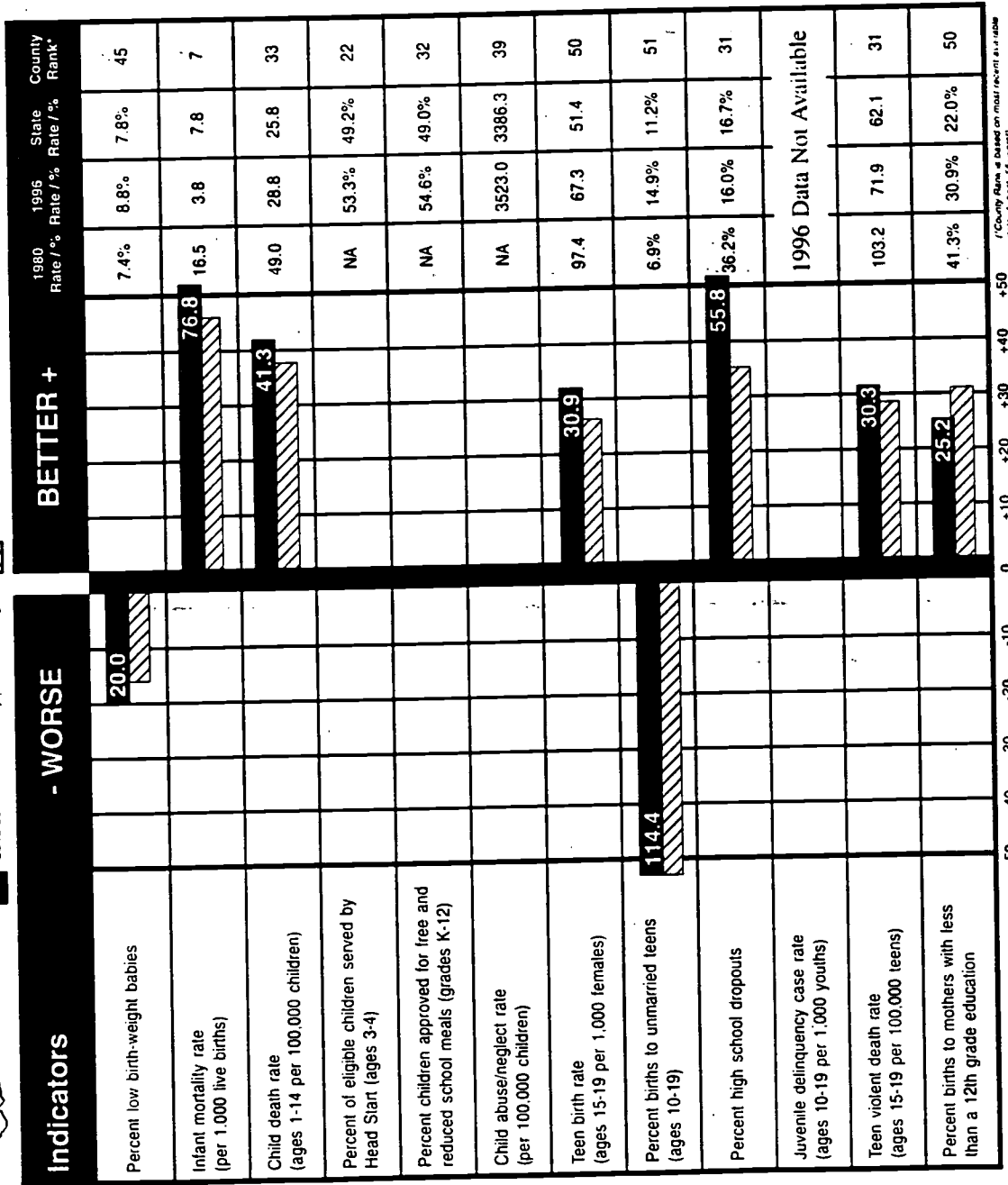
Composite County Rank

45

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

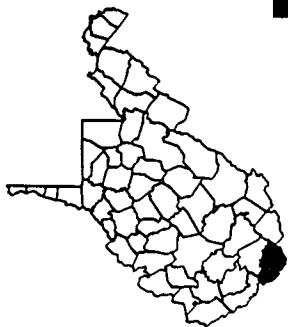
Total population	50,679	41,804	1986	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,424	\$6,471	89.0%	
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	10.7%	19.5%	82.0%	
Percent births with early prenatal care	47.8%	71.2%	49.1%	
Total jobs in high-paying industries	8,461	4,852	42.7%	
Total jobs in low-paying industries	6,334	8,183	29.2%	
Unemployment rate	8.6%	11.0%	27.9%	
Total population under age 18	16,758	10,906	34.9%	
Percent population under age 18	33.1%	26.1%	21.1%	
Percent minority population	4.7%	4.5%	5.4%	
Percent minority population under age 18	4.7%	4.6%	1.4%	

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.6%	17.5%	50.1%	
Percent children in poverty	21.6%	39.7%	83.8%	
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$25,483	\$21,100	17.2%	

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Member FDIC



McDowell County

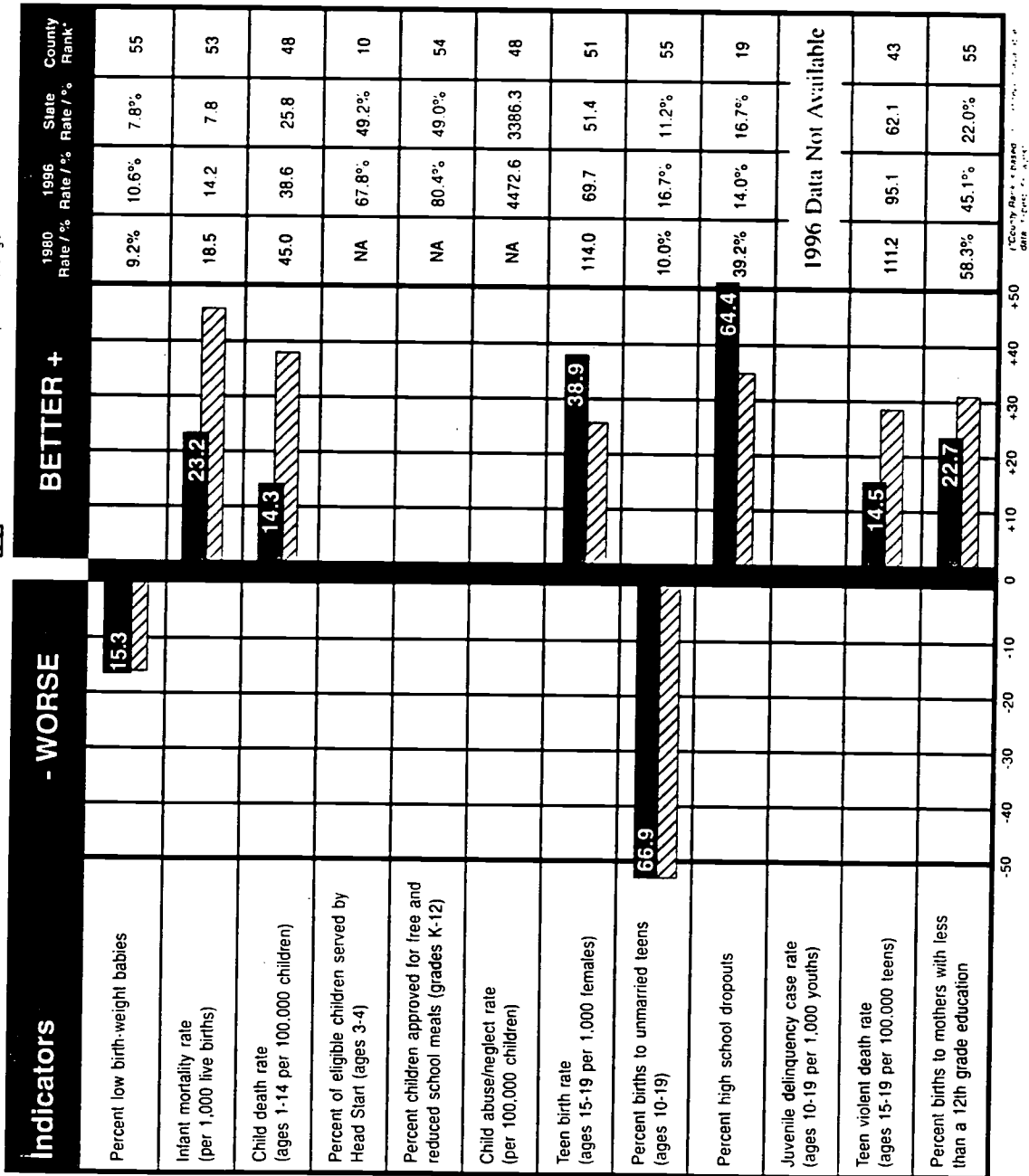
Composite County Rank

55

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	49,899	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,545		\$6,698	88.9%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	22.5%		31.4%	39.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	48.8%		62.7%	28.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	9,046		2,233	-75.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,942		2,959	-24.9%
Unemployment rate	13.0%		12.7%	-2.3%
Total population under age 18	17,225		8,532	-50.5%
Percent population under age 18	34.5%		27.2%	-21.2%
Percent minority population	15.0%		14.3%	-4.8%
Percent minority population under age 18	14.2%		15.3%	8.3%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	13.8%	1980	1995	% Change
Percent children in poverty	31.0%	1980	56.3%	81.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$21,729	1980	\$15,756	-27.5%



Herman & Cormany
Certified Public Accountants, A.C.



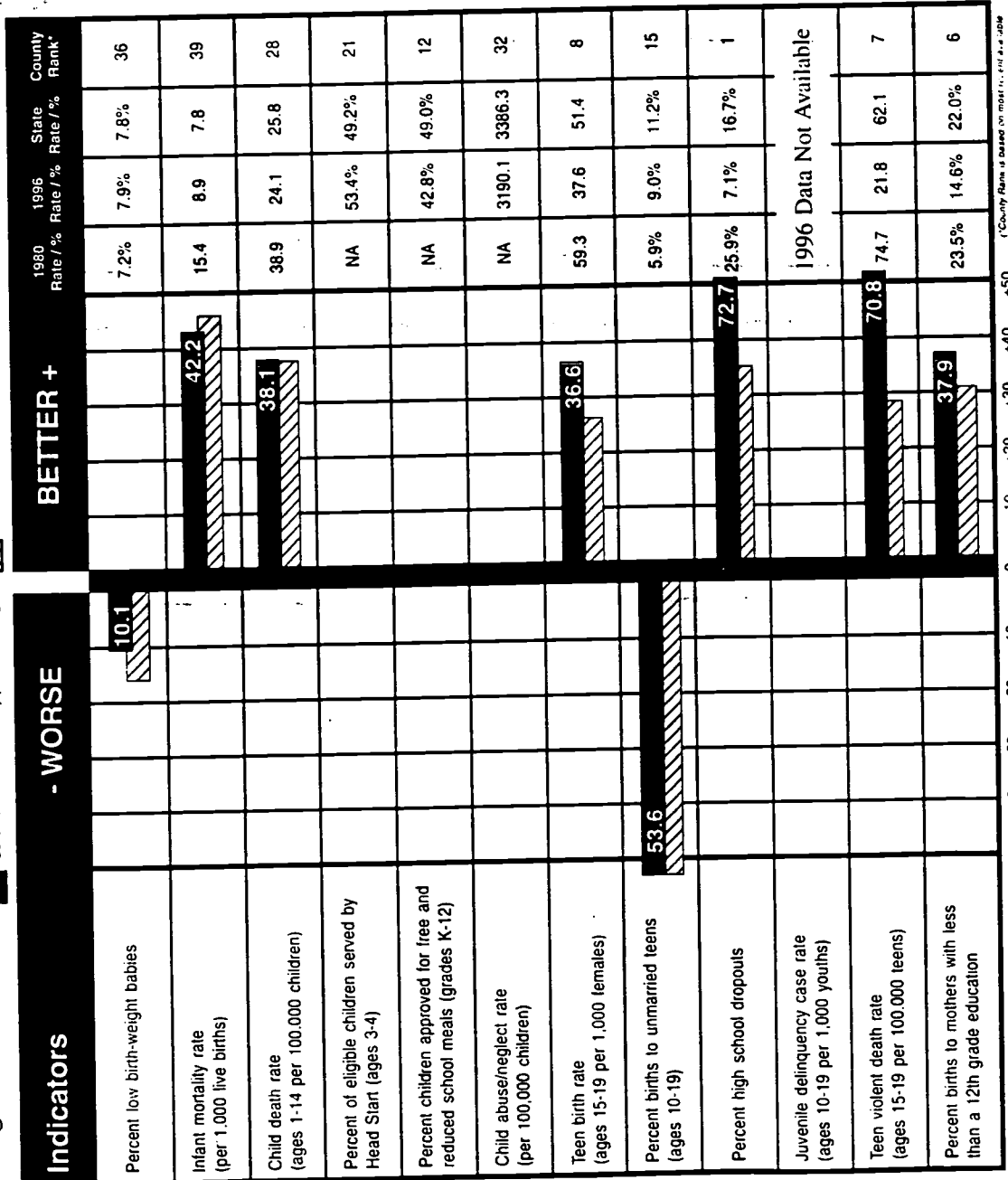
Marion County

Composite County Rank

9

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change
Patterned bars indicate state percent change



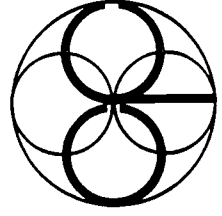
*County Rank is based on most recent available data (over 55,000)

Background Facts

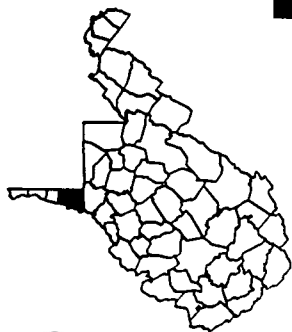
Total population	65,789	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,102		\$6,074	48.1%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	10.2%		16.0%	57.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	76.3%		79.6%	4.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	11,812		8,217	-30.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	9,764		12,497	28.0%
Unemployment rate	9.9%		10.8%	9.1%
Total population under age 18	17,369		12,075	-30.5%
Percent population under age 18	26.4%		21.1%	-20.2%
Percent minority population	4.0%		4.4%	12.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.8%		5.1%	6.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	12.5%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	16.4%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$27,266	1980	1990	% Change
	\$25,963			-4.8%



COLOR
CRAFT
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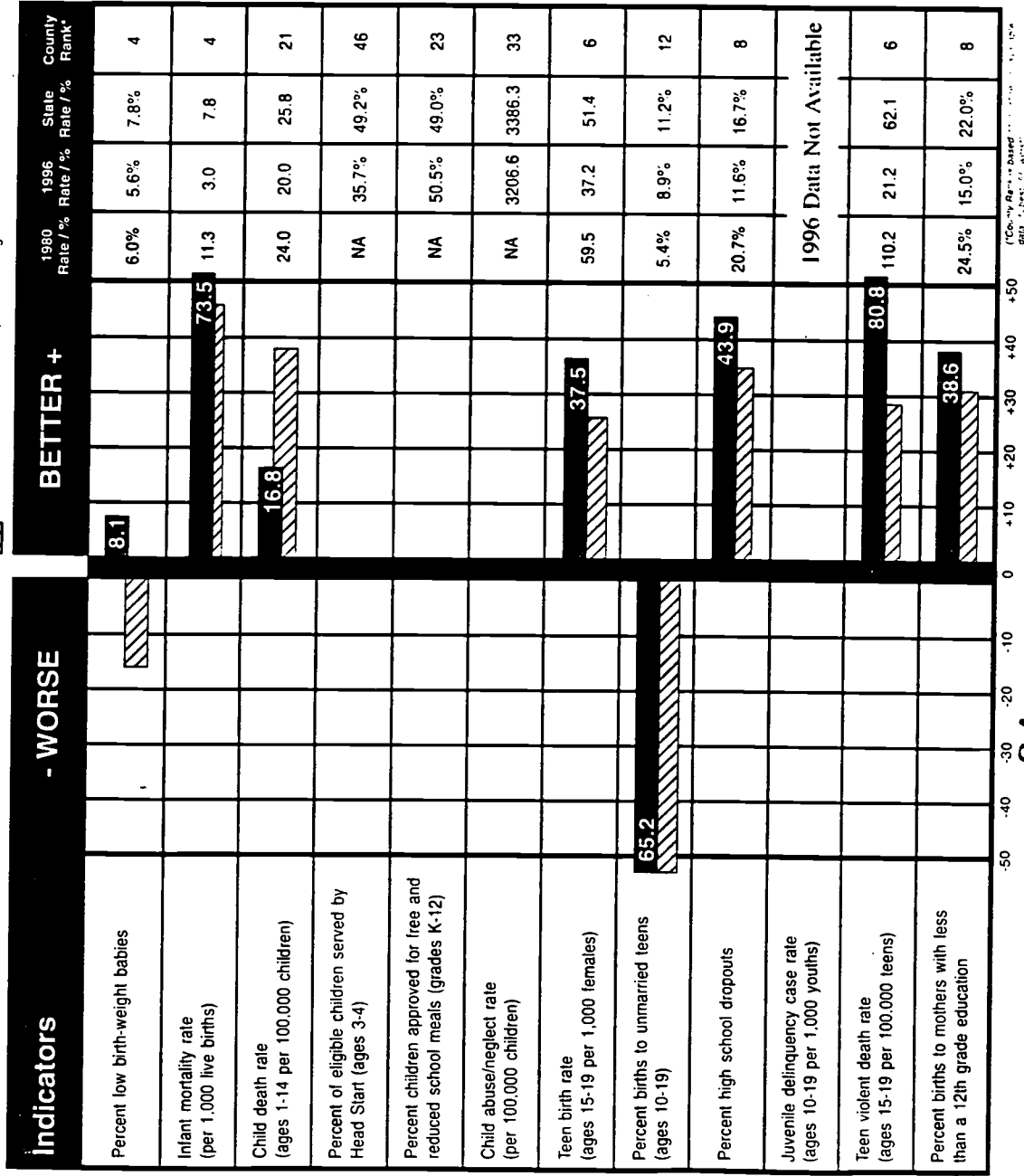
Marshall County

Composite County Rank

5

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



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The Annie E. Casey Foundation

WV KIDS COUNT

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Background Facts

Total population	41,608	1980	1995	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,163		\$6,626	59.1%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.4%		12.5%	49.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	83.9%		80.5%	-4.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	8,353		5,328	-36.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	4,224		6,322	49.7%
Unemployment rate	11.9%		6.3%	-47.1%
Total population under age 18	12,020		8,274	-31.2%
Percent population under age 18	28.9%		23.0%	-20.6%
Percent minority population	1.0%		1.5%	48.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.9%		1.6%	89.0%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.1%	1980	1995	% Change
Percent children in poverty	11.8%	1980	26.1%	121.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$31,045	1980	\$26,974	-13.1%

Undo's
Since 1953



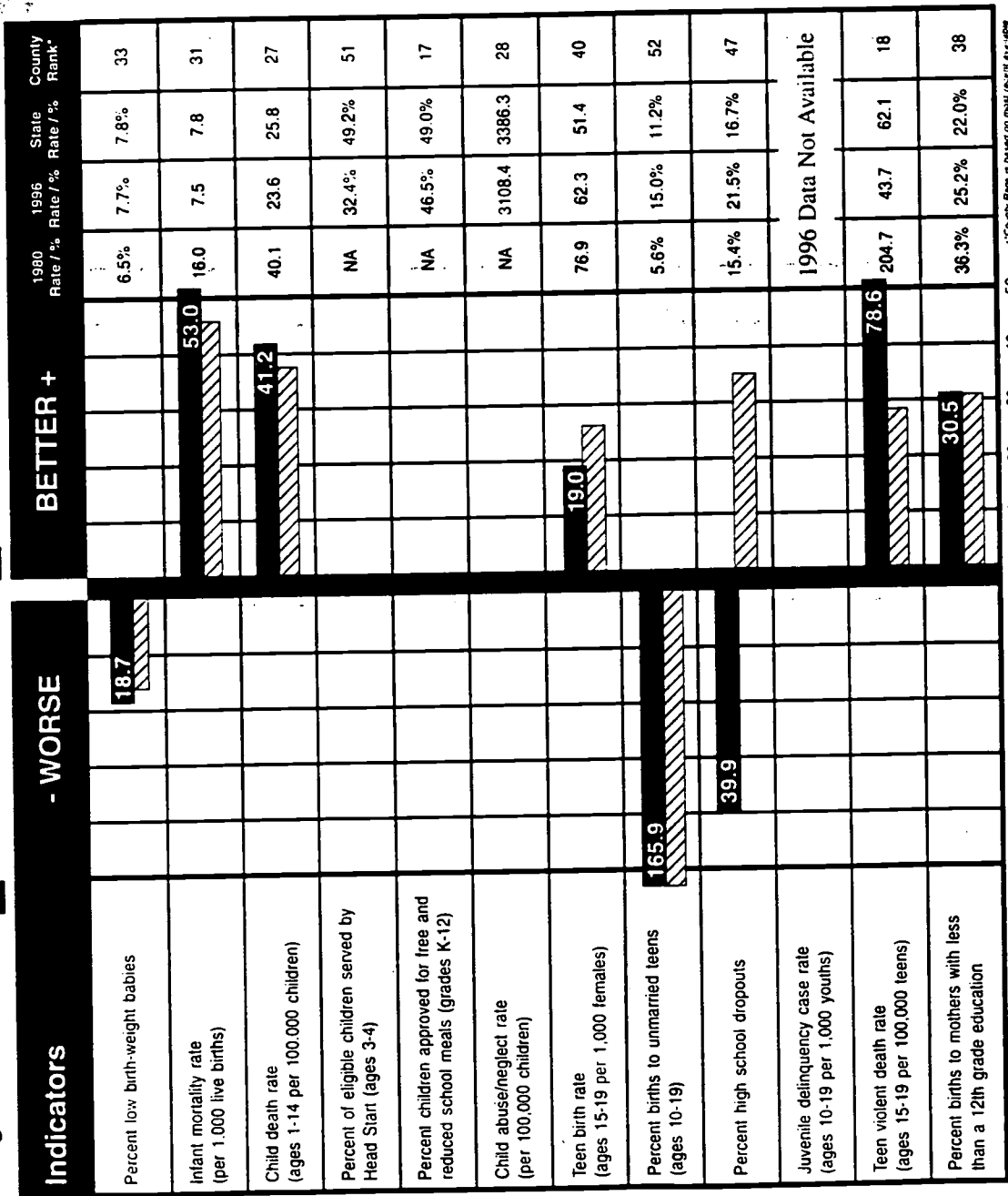
Mason County

Composite County Rank

36

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change. Patterined bars indicate state percent change.



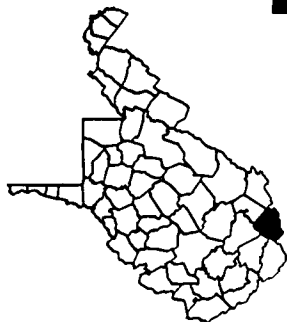
Background Facts

Total population	27,045	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,039		\$5,611	63.7%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	6.3%		14.7%	132.8%
Percent births with early prenatal care	66.4%		81.6%	22.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	4,529		3,493	-22.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,828		3,577	26.5%
Unemployment rate	12.8%		11.2%	-12.5%
Total population under age 18	8,041		6,215	-22.7%
Percent population under age 18	29.7%		24.1%	-19.0%
Percent minority population	0.9%		1.2%	32.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.1%		1.4%	18.1%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	10.4%	16.3%	57.8%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	15.8%	29.9%	89.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$26,720	\$24,125	-9.7%

*Compliments of
George Coker and
Morris Coker, Inc.*



Mercer County

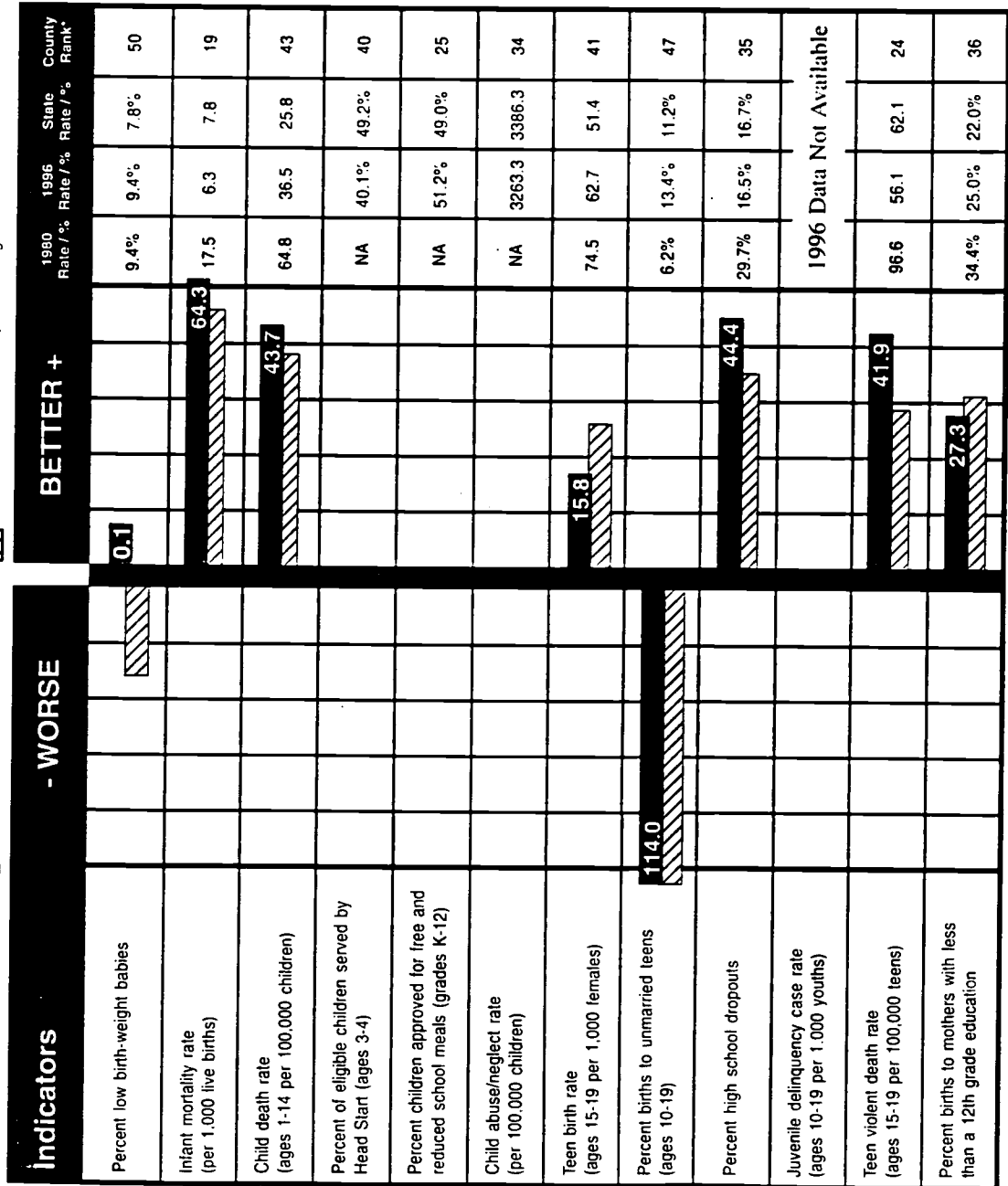
Composite County Rank

41

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank based on comparison with all other counties in West Virginia

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The Annie E. Casey Foundation

WV KIDS COUNT

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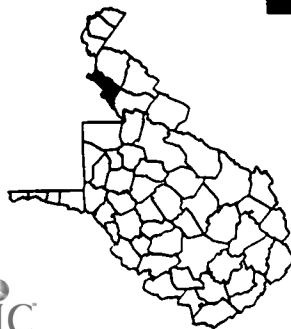
Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	73,942	64,506	-12.8%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,624	\$6,450	78.0%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	11.9%	15.0%	26.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.6%	73.5%	8.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	9,063	7,282	-19.7%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	13,970	16,023	14.7%
Unemployment rate	9.2%	5.2%	-43.5%
Total population under age 18	20,938	14,433	-31.1%
Percent population under age 18	28.3%	22.4%	-21.0%
Percent minority population	7.4%	7.5%	0.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	8.0%	9.3%	15.4%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	12.5%	18.0%	44.5%
Percent children in poverty	19.6%	34.8%	77.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$25,663	\$24,020	-6.4%

*Compliments of
Ben Faulkner
and
Pentree, Inc.*



Mineral County

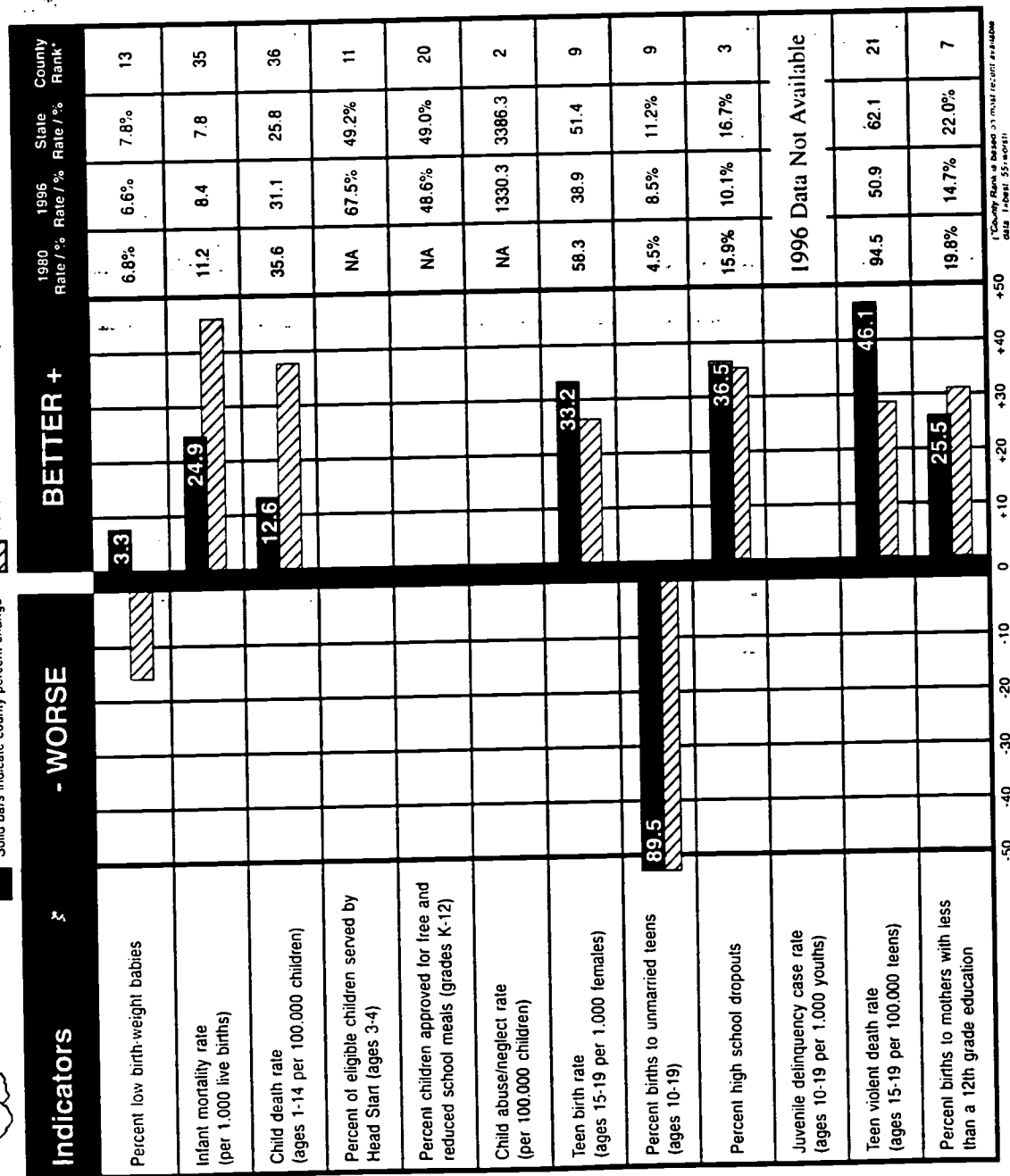
Composite County Rank

10

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on 1996 report available
Data from 1996

WV KIDS COUNT

Background Facts

Total population	27,234	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,683		\$6,092	65.4%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.9%		10.0%	12.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	76.6%		82.2%	7.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,457		2,520	-27.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,503		3,907	56.1%
Unemployment rate	8.0%		6.0%	-25.0%
Total population under age 18	8,150		6,326	-22.4%
Percent population under age 18	29.9%		23.3%	-22.0%
Percent minority population	3.3%		3.5%	6.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.1%		4.1%	-0.8%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.7%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	16.5%	1980	1990	45.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$25,631	1980	1990	4.9%



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The Annie E. Casey Foundation



Mingo County

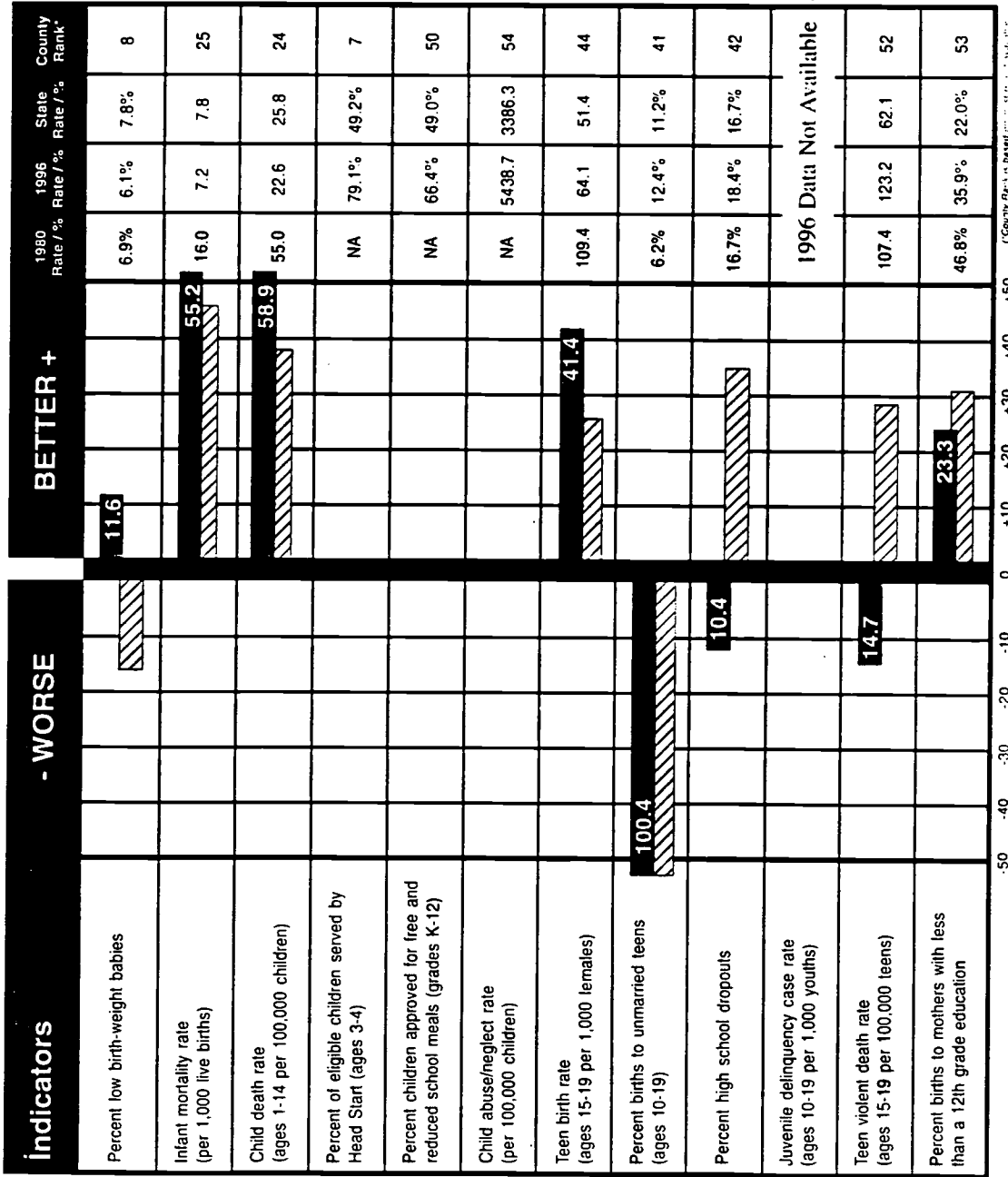
Composite County Rank

47

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

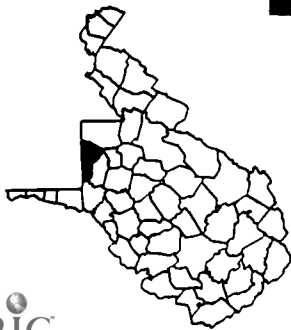
Total population	37,336	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,403		\$6,709	97.1%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	18.2%		24.3%	33.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	42.6%		76.0%	78.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	5,182		5,598	8.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	4,084		4,305	5.4%
Unemployment rate	9.6%		14.2%	47.9%
Total population under age 18	13,126		9,407	-28.3%
Percent population under age 18	35.2%		28.6%	-18.6%
Percent minority population	3.1%		3.6%	14.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	2.9%		3.6%	22.9%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	12.5%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	30.1%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$22,900	1980	1990	% Change
	\$19,643			-14.2%



WEST VIRGINIA COAL ASSOCIATION



Monongalia County

Composite County Rank

7

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE	BETTER +	1980 Rate / %	1996 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	53.8					
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)		20.8	4.8%	7.4%	7.8%	26
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	7.7		10.9	8.7	7.8	37
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)			34.7	37.4	25.8	45
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)			NA	36.1%	49.2%	44
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)			NA	37.4%	49.0%	4
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)		27.0	30.7	22.4	51.4	1
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	100.5		3.9%	7.8%	11.2%	5
Percent high school dropouts		41.5	28.1%	16.4%	16.7%	34
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)			1996 Data Not Available			
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)		62.5	30.5	11.4	62.1	4
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education		39.3	20.2%	12.3%	22.0%	2

*County Rank is based on most recent available data (1996-1997)

Background Facts

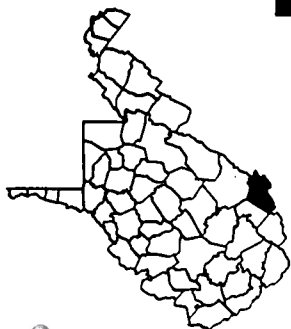
Total population	75,024	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,940		\$6,207	57.5%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	4.5%		9.5%	109.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.2%		86.2%	11.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	10,470		9,493	-9.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	11,520		23,139	100.9%
Unemployment rate	7.1%		5.1%	-28.2%
Total population under age 18	16,658		14,491	-13.0%
Percent population under age 18	22.2%		18.6%	-16.2%
Percent minority population	3.7%		5.9%	62.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	3.7%		5.5%	48.2%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.2%	1980	1996	% Change
Percent children in poverty	11.1%	1980	22.0%	98.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$28,731	1980	\$30,426	5.9%



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Morgantown • Martinsburg, West Virginia



Monroe County

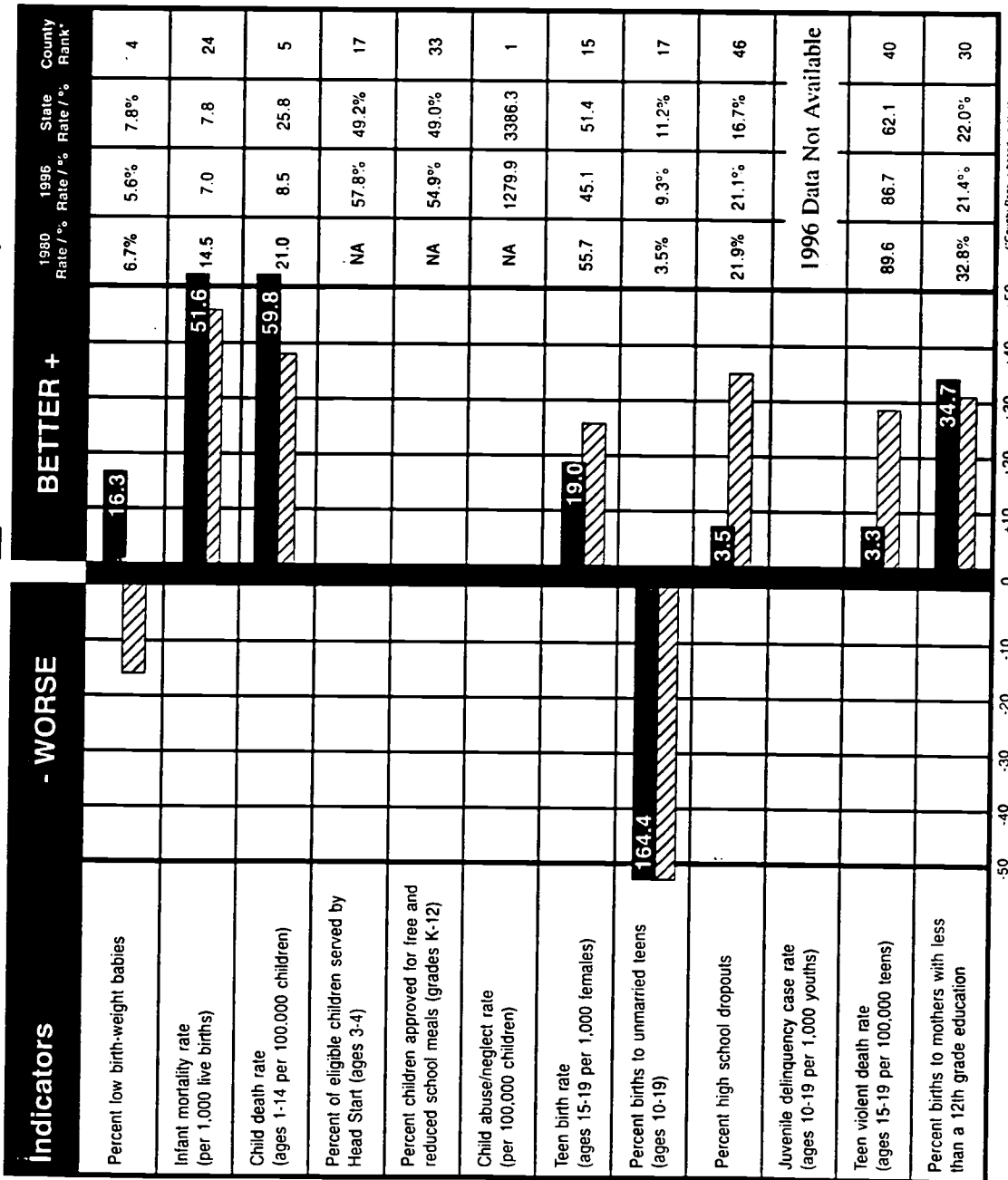
Composite County Rank

17

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	12,873	12,990	0.9%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,733	\$5,904	58.2%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	4.5%	6.9%	54.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	55.1%	81.2%	47.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	976	1,038	6.4%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	855	1,321	54.5%
Unemployment rate	7.1%	6.0%	-15.5%
Total population under age 18	3,805	2,949	-22.5%
Percent population under age 18	29.6%	22.7%	-23.2%
Percent minority population	2.0%	2.0%	-0.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.8%	2.1%	21.3%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	8.7%	13.5%	55.0%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	25.1%	27.4%	9.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$19,792	\$21,530	8.8%

*Compliments of
Jim Bunn
and
Eaglehawk Carbon*



Morgan County

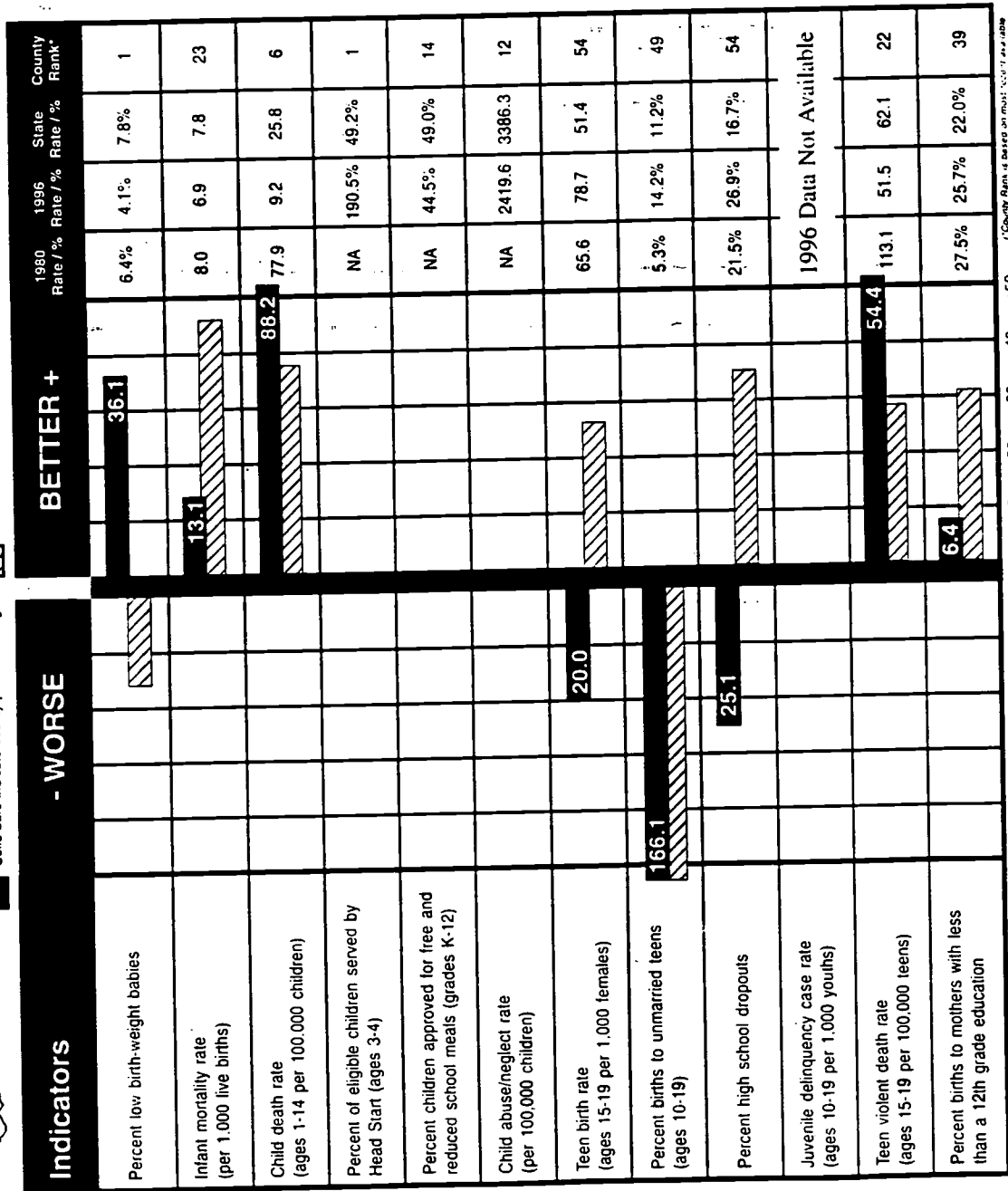
Composite County Rank

31

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

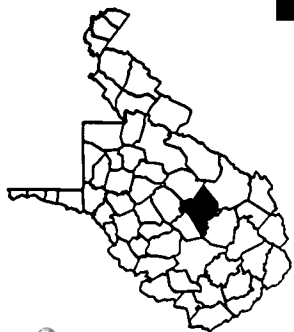
Total population	10,711	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,614		\$5,784	60.0%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	4.7%		9.0%	92.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.3%		78.0%	3.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	872		1,484	70.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,039		2,151	107.0%
Unemployment rate	6.7%		5.5%	-17.9%
Total population under age 18	3,022		2,832	-6.3%
Percent population under age 18	28.2%		21.2%	-24.8%
Percent minority population	1.2%		1.6%	31.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.2%		1.6%	26.9%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	8.5%	12.7%	50.1%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	20.7%	18.4%	-11.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$24,726	\$28,252	14.3%

UNITED
NATIONAL BANK
WEST VIRGINIA'S BANK

Member FDIC



Nicholas County

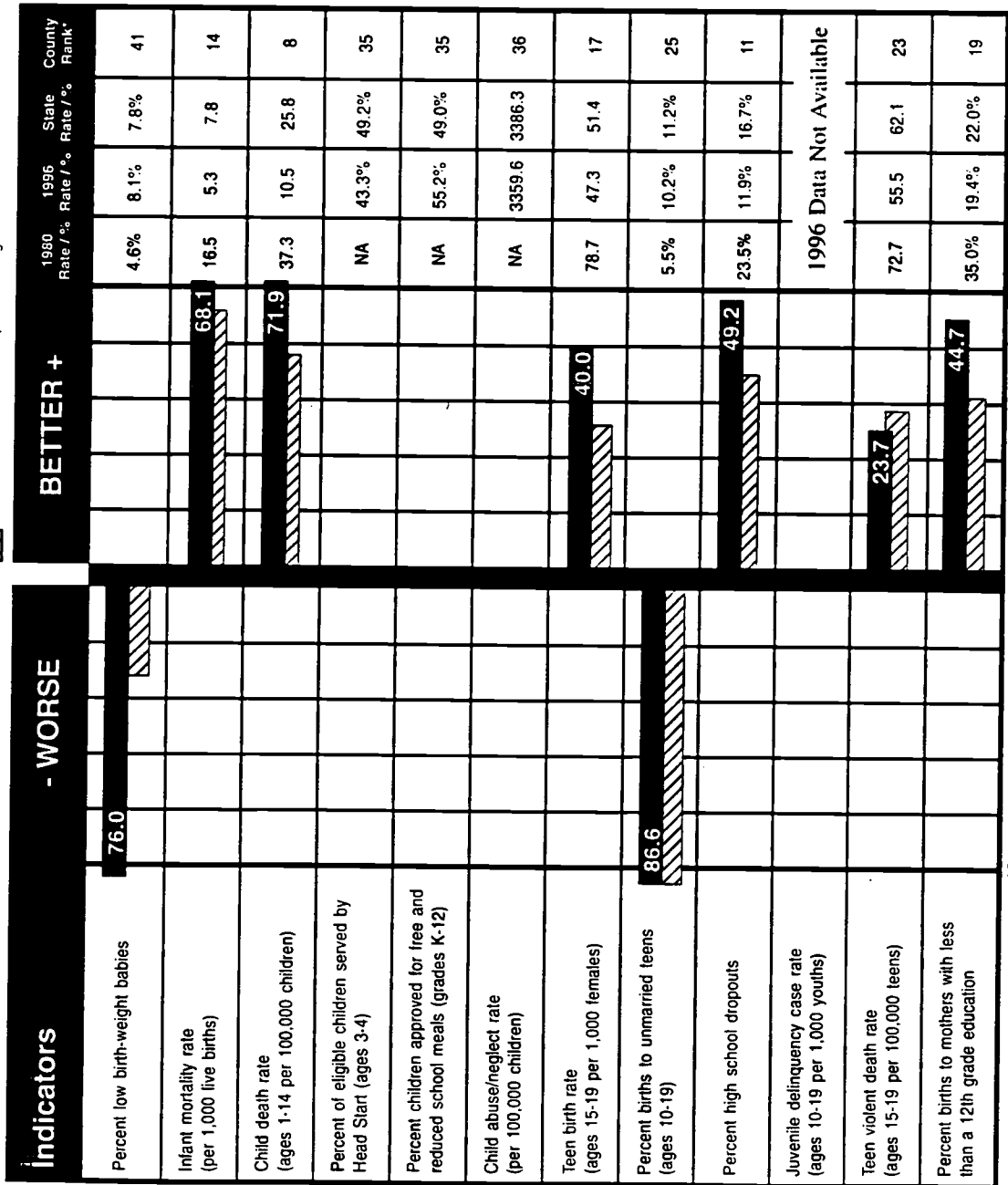
Composite County Rank

14

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



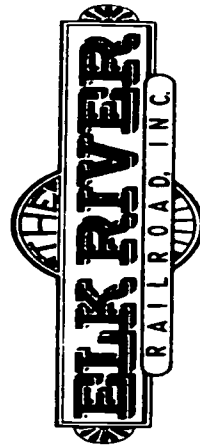
(County Rank is based on most recent available data; lowest is best)

Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	28,126	27,534	-2.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,299	\$6,044	83.2%
Percent all families with related children who receive cash assistance	8.7%	15.3%	76.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	69.6%	83.7%	20.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	6,103	3,260	-46.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,989	4,819	61.2%
Unemployment rate	11.9%	10.9%	-8.4%
Total population under age 18	9,062	7,077	-21.9%
Percent population under age 18	32.2%	25.7%	-20.2%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.6%	122.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.8%	NM

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	10.5%	16.0%	52.6%
Percent children in poverty	20.9%	35.5%	69.9%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$23,688	\$21,390	-9.7%





Ohio County

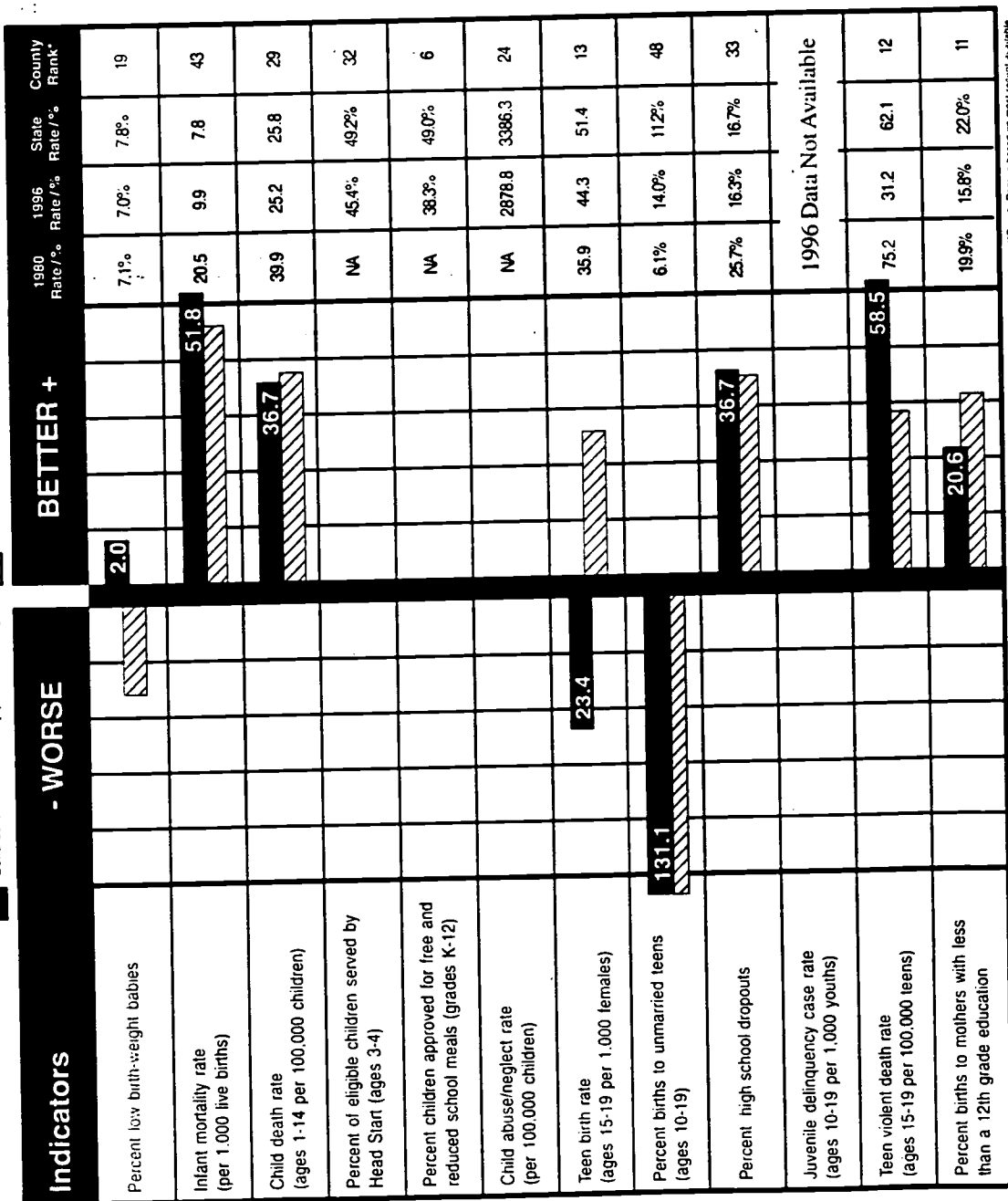
Composite County Rank

18

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



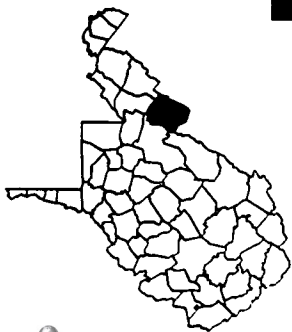
Background Facts

Total population	61,389	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,294		\$5,925	38.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.0%		12.0%	19.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	81.7%		76.0%	-6.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	10,351		7,154	-30.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	18,506		23,219	25.5%
Unemployment rate	8.1%		4.4%	-45.7%
Total population under age 18	14,700		10,028	-31.8%
Percent population under age 18	23.9%		20.3%	-15.0%
Percent minority population	4.1%		4.5%	10.6%
Percent minority population under age 18	5.9%		6.5%	10.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	15.8%	1980	1990	% Change
	21.2%		34.5%	
Percent children in poverty	14.4%	1980	1995	% Change
	23.8%		65.3%	
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$29,511	1980	1990	% Change
	\$30,037		1.8%	





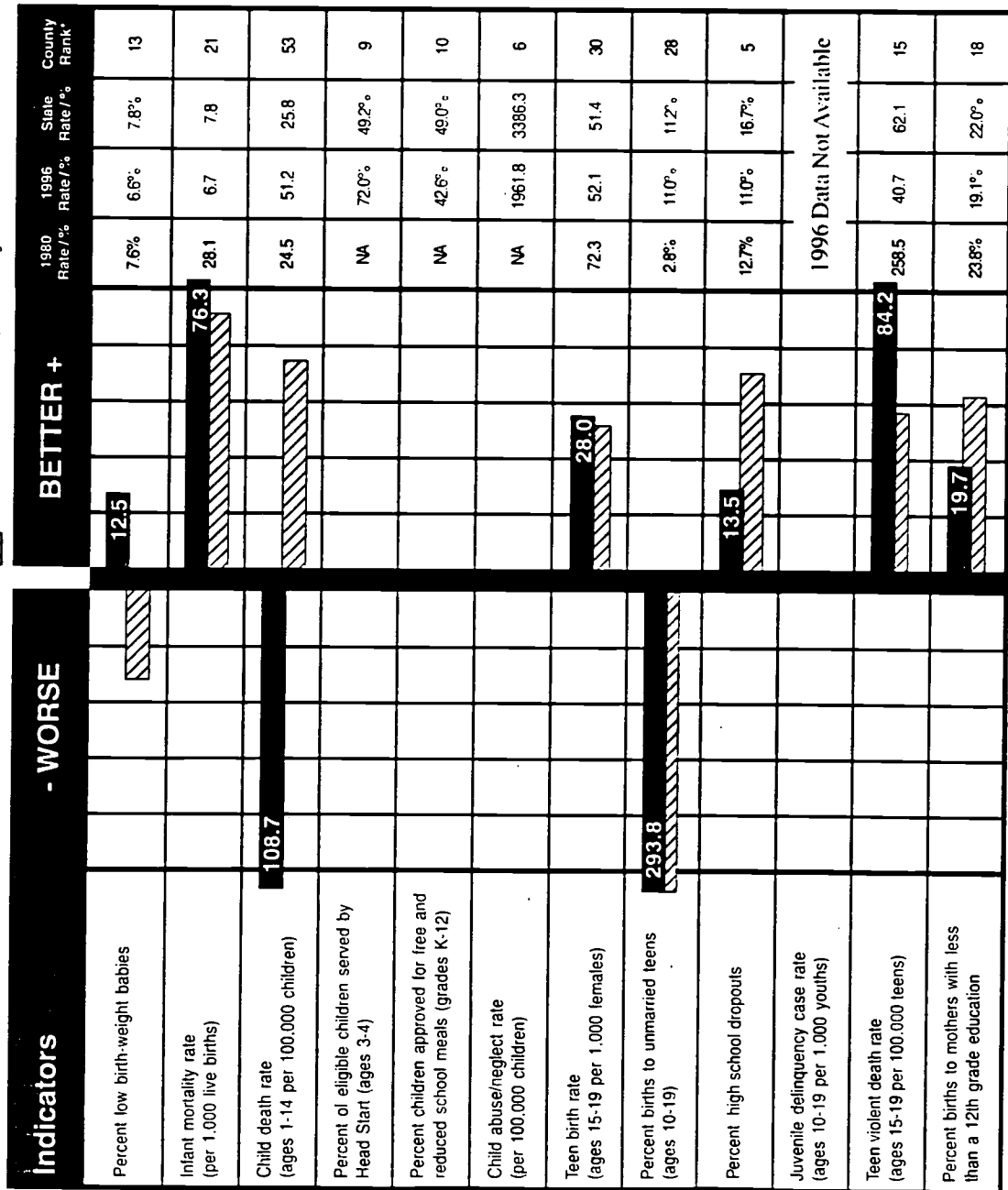
Pendleton County

Composite County Rank

20

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on 1996 data.

WV KIDS COUNT

114

Background Facts

Total population	7,910	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,928		\$5,930	51.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.4%		5.0%	-46.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	73.7%		83.6%	13.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	913		1,156	26.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	682		1,253	83.7%
Unemployment rate	10.6%		4.0%	-62.3%
Total population under age 18	2,151		1,793	-16.6%
Percent population under age 18	27.2%		22.3%	-17.9%
Percent minority population	2.5%		2.7%	8.0%
Percent minority population under age 18	3.2%		3.3%	4.3%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	9.4%	11.4%	20.9%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1990	% Change
	26.4%	21.6%	-18.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$19,795	\$22,500	13.7%

*Compliments of
Karen Hern
and
GE Plastics*



Pleasants County

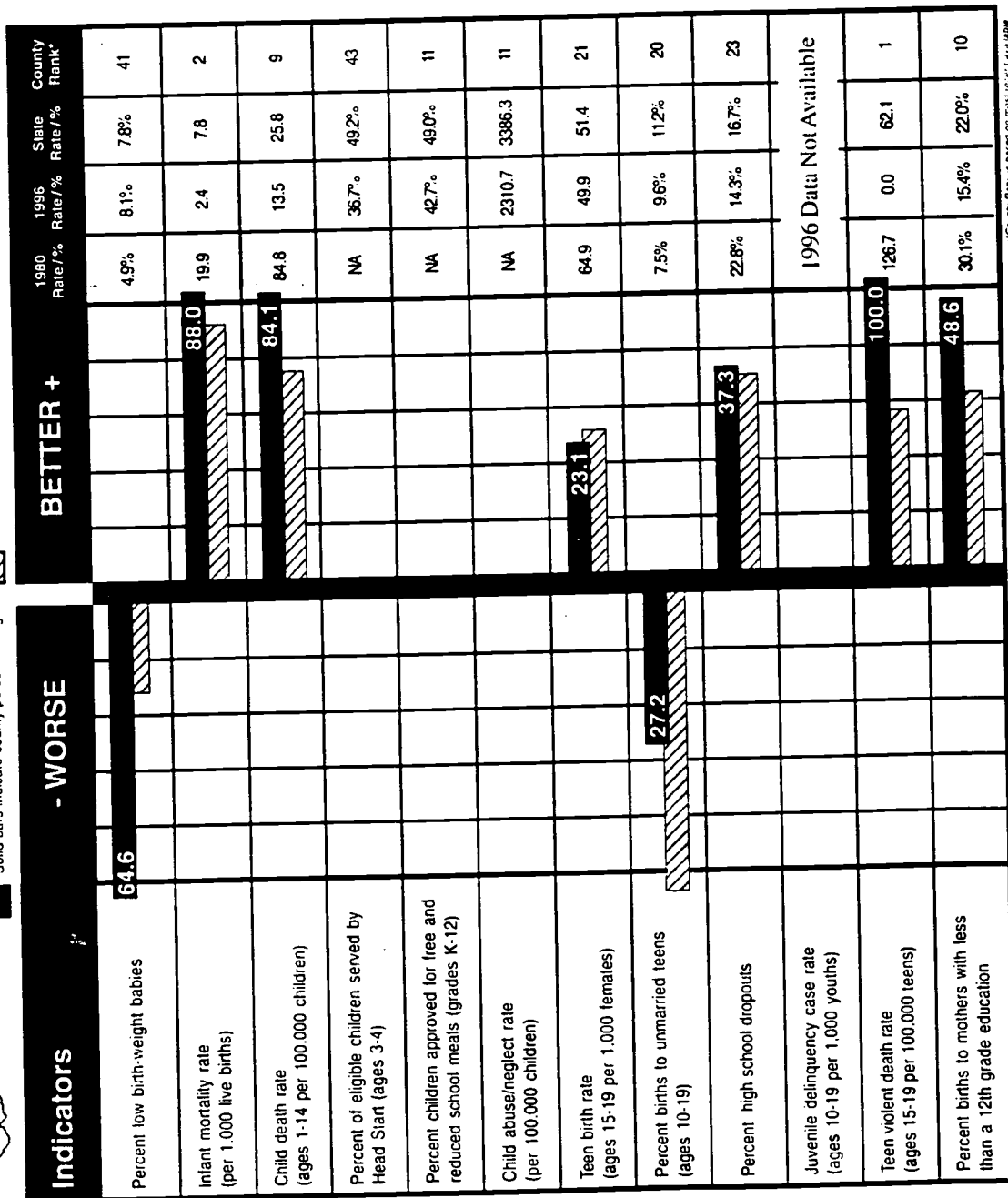
Composite County Rank

8

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change

Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

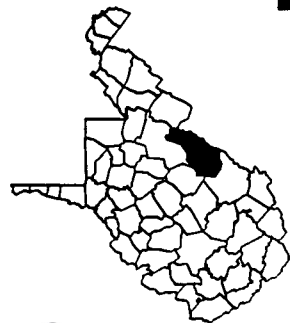
Total population	8,236	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$5,285		\$7,601	43.8%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	5.2%		10.1%	94.0%
Percent births with early prenatal care	69.3%		74.8%	8.0%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,610		1,275	-51.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	892		1,309	46.7%
Unemployment rate	8.5%		9.4%	10.6%
Total population under age 18	2,510		1,812	-27.8%
Percent population under age 18	30.5%		24.3%	-20.2%
Percent minority population	0.4%		0.5%	29.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.3%		0.6%	90.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	11.1%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	16.3%	1980	1995	51.3%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$28,455	1980	1990	% Change
				50.9%
				-8.2%



For Your Lifetime



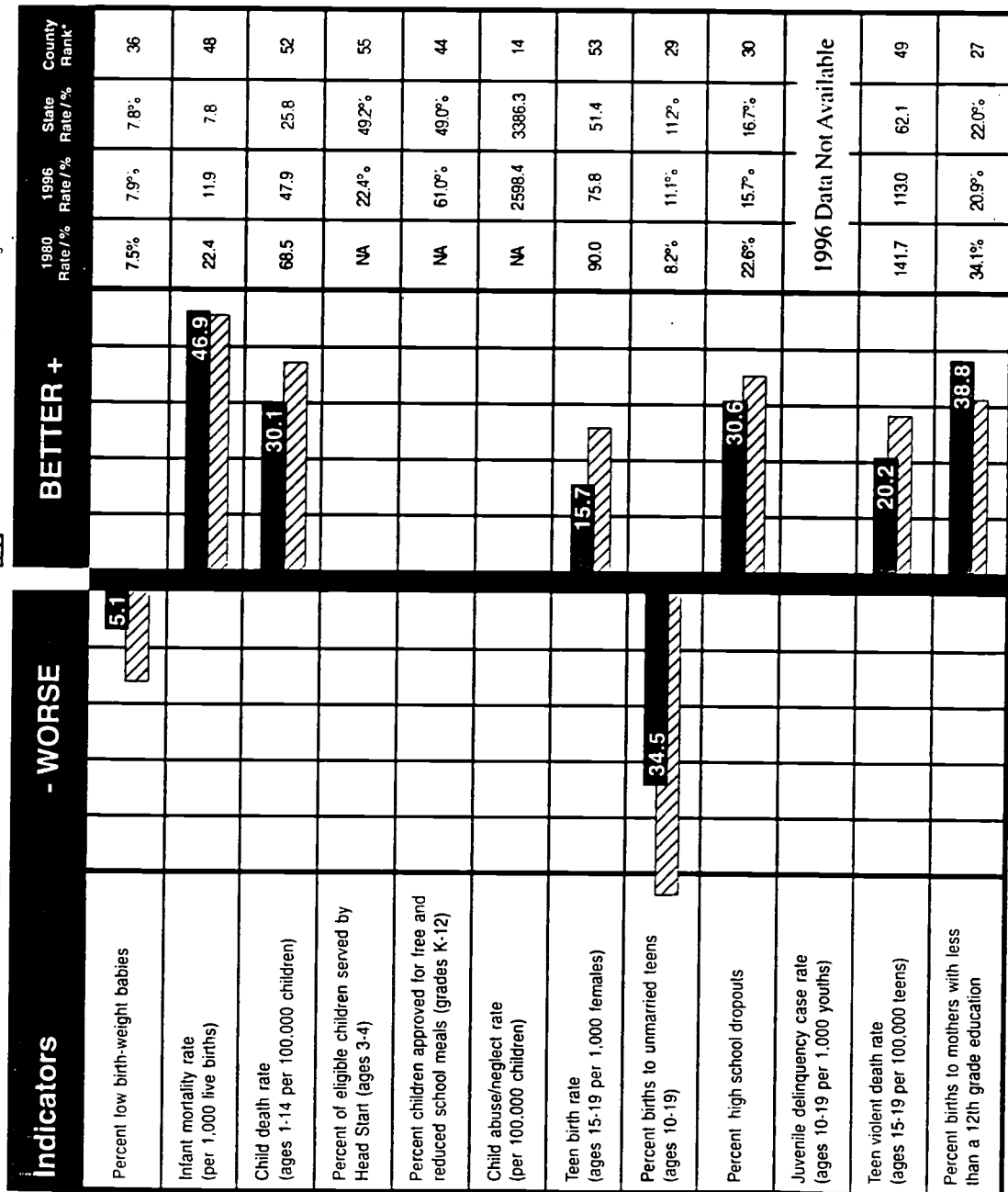
Pocahontas County

Composite County Rank

50

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



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The Annie E. Casey Foundation

WV KIDS COUNT

Background Facts

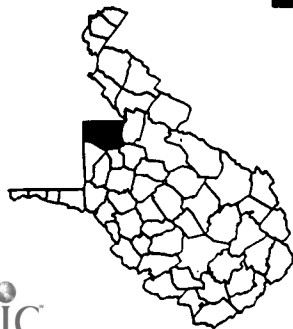
Total population	9,919	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,419		\$6,734	52.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.7%		6.8%	-22.3%
Percent births with early prenatal care	55.9%		78.1%	39.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,184		1,404	18.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,252		2,328	85.9%
Unemployment rate	11.2%		13.0%	16.1%
Total population under age 18	2,738		1,934	-29.4%
Percent population under age 18	27.6%		21.3%	-22.7%
Percent minority population	1.1%		1.9%	83.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.3%		1.3%	293.3%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	9.4%	15.1%	60.4%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	13.2%	29.1%	120.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$23,045	\$20,595	-10.6%

*Compliments of
Ford Coal*

119



Preston County

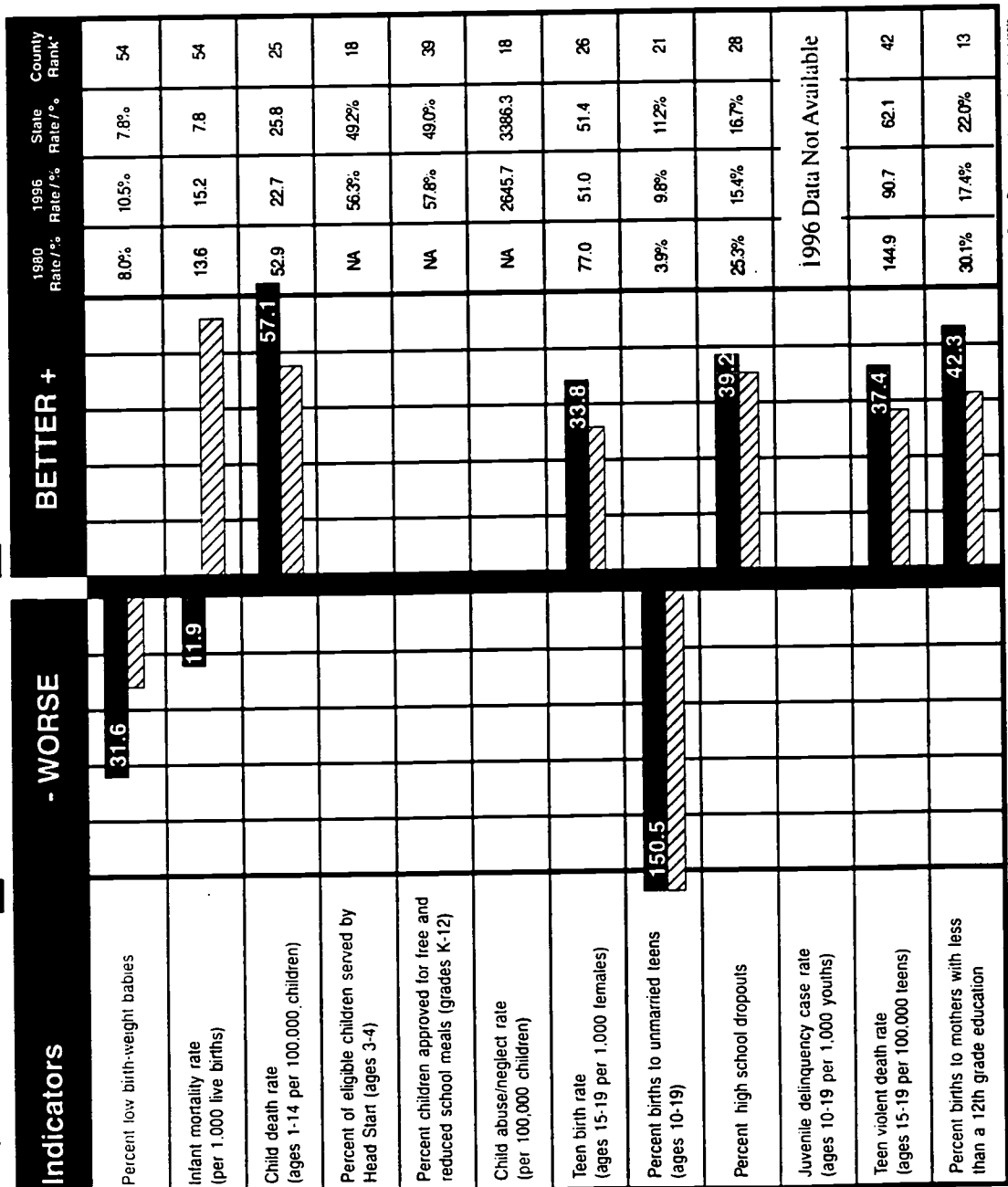
Composite County Rank

42

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data. (Rank 1 is best)

Background Facts

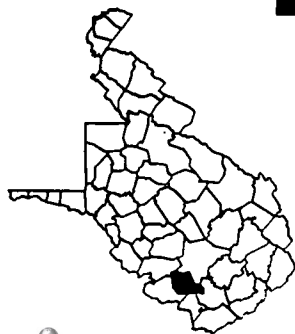
Total population	30,460	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,627		\$5,772	59.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	9.5%		11.8%	23.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.9%		86.1%	26.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,600		3,204	-11.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,289		3,982	74.0%
Unemployment rate	10.8%		9.6%	-11.1%
Total population under age 18	9,392		7,546	-19.7%
Percent population under age 18	30.8%		25.3%	-17.9%
Percent minority population	0.5%		0.8%	84.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.5%		1.0%	111.0%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	9.3%	13.0%	40.7%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	22.4%	28.5%	27.2%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$23,414	\$23,222	-0.8%



TERRELLELLIS
& ASSOCIATES



Putnam County

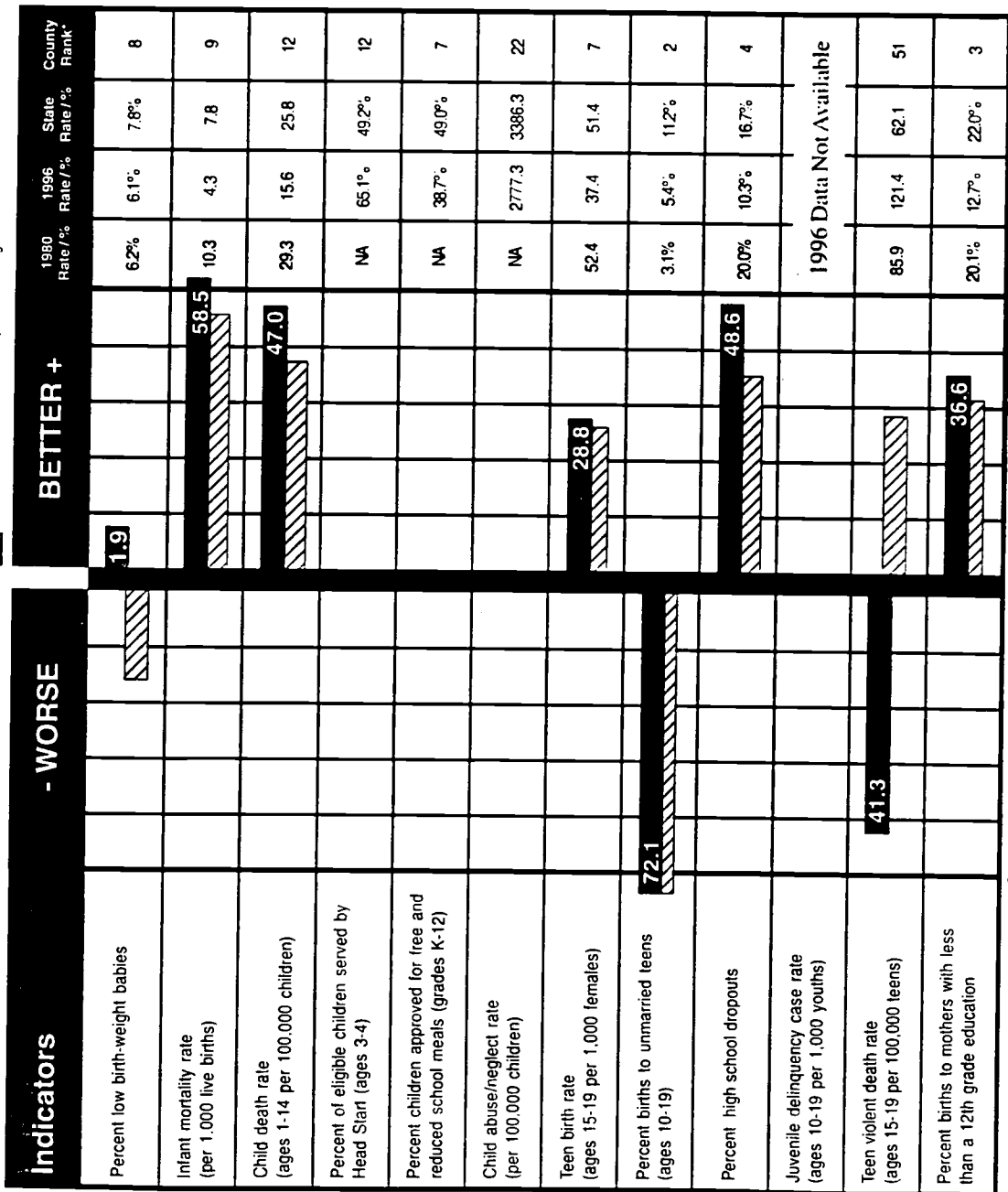
Composite County Rank

4

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on data from 1996

Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	38,181	49,453	29.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,662	\$5,762	57.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	4.7%	7.1%	50.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	77.7%	87.3%	12.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,946	6,597	67.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,772	10,869	188.1%
Unemployment rate	10.5%	5.4%	-48.6%
Total population under age 18	11,616	12,363	6.4%
Percent population under age 18	30.4%	25.0%	-17.8%
Percent minority population	0.4%	1.2%	172.3%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.6%	1.6%	169.4%

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	8.4%	13.0%	54.5%
Percent children in poverty	10.9%	16.3%	49.5%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$30,877	\$31,448	1.8%

UNITED NATIONAL BANK

WEST VIRGINIA'S BANK

Member FDIC



Raleigh County

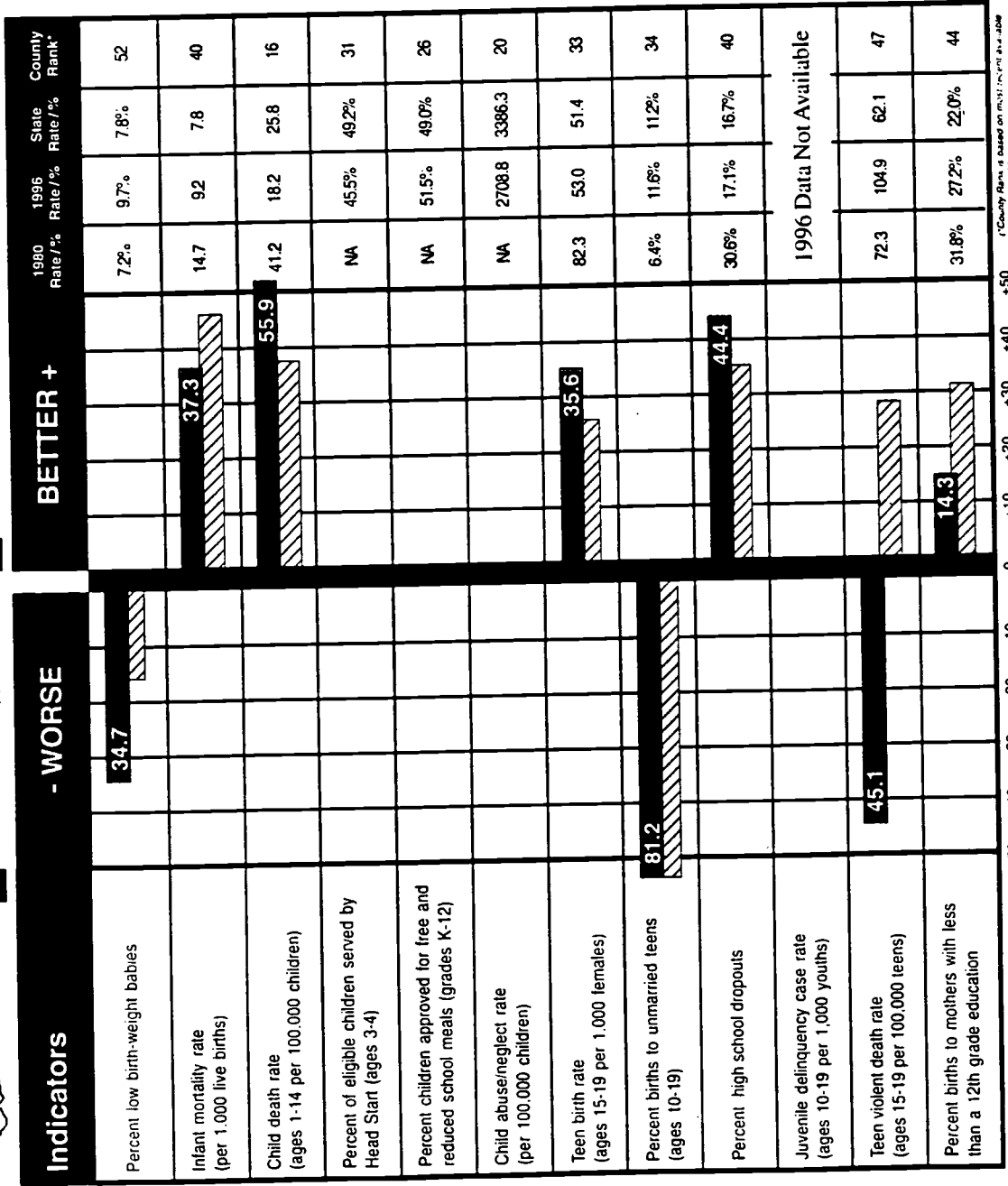
Composite County Rank

39

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent data (1996-1997)

Background Facts

Total population	86,821	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,442		\$6,326	83.8%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.2%		15.9%	92.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	45.0%		81.1%	80.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	11,798		8,668	-26.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	14,292		21,724	52.0%
Unemployment rate	9.9%		8.3%	-16.2%
Total population under age 18	26,270		19,205	-26.9%
Percent population under age 18	30.3%		24.4%	-19.4%
Percent minority population	8.5%		8.9%	3.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	9.2%		10.7%	15.6%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.5%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	15.8%	1980	1995	69.0%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$27,298	1980	1990	108.2%
	\$24,391			-10.7%

*Compliments of
Caperton Energy Company*

Percent Change 1980-1996

 Solid bars indicate county percent change

 Patterned bars indicate state percent change

Indicators	- WORSE	BETTER +	1980 Rate / %	1996 Rate / %	State Rate / %	County Rank*
Percent low birth-weight babies	44.3			5.0%	7.3%	22
Infant mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)		12.9		10.5	9.2	40
Child death rate (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)	26.6			36.3	46.0	51
Percent of eligible children served by Head Start (ages 3-4)				NA	32.5%	50
Percent children approved for free and reduced school meals (grades K-12)				NA	59.5%	41
Child abuse/neglect rate (per 100,000 children)				NA	3157.1	30
Teen birth rate (ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)		36.4		68.8	43.7	12
Percent births to unmarried teens (ages 10-19)	53.8			6.1%	9.4%	18
Percent high school dropouts		56.8		28.6%	12.4%	13
Juvenile delinquency case rate (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)						
Teen violent death rate (ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)		28.4		51.1	36.6	13
Percent births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education		33.7		33.7%	22.3%	32

City of New York
County of New York

The Annie E. Casey Foundation

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WV KIDS COUNT

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Page 61

***Compliments of
Richard Adams
and
United National Bank***



Ritchie County

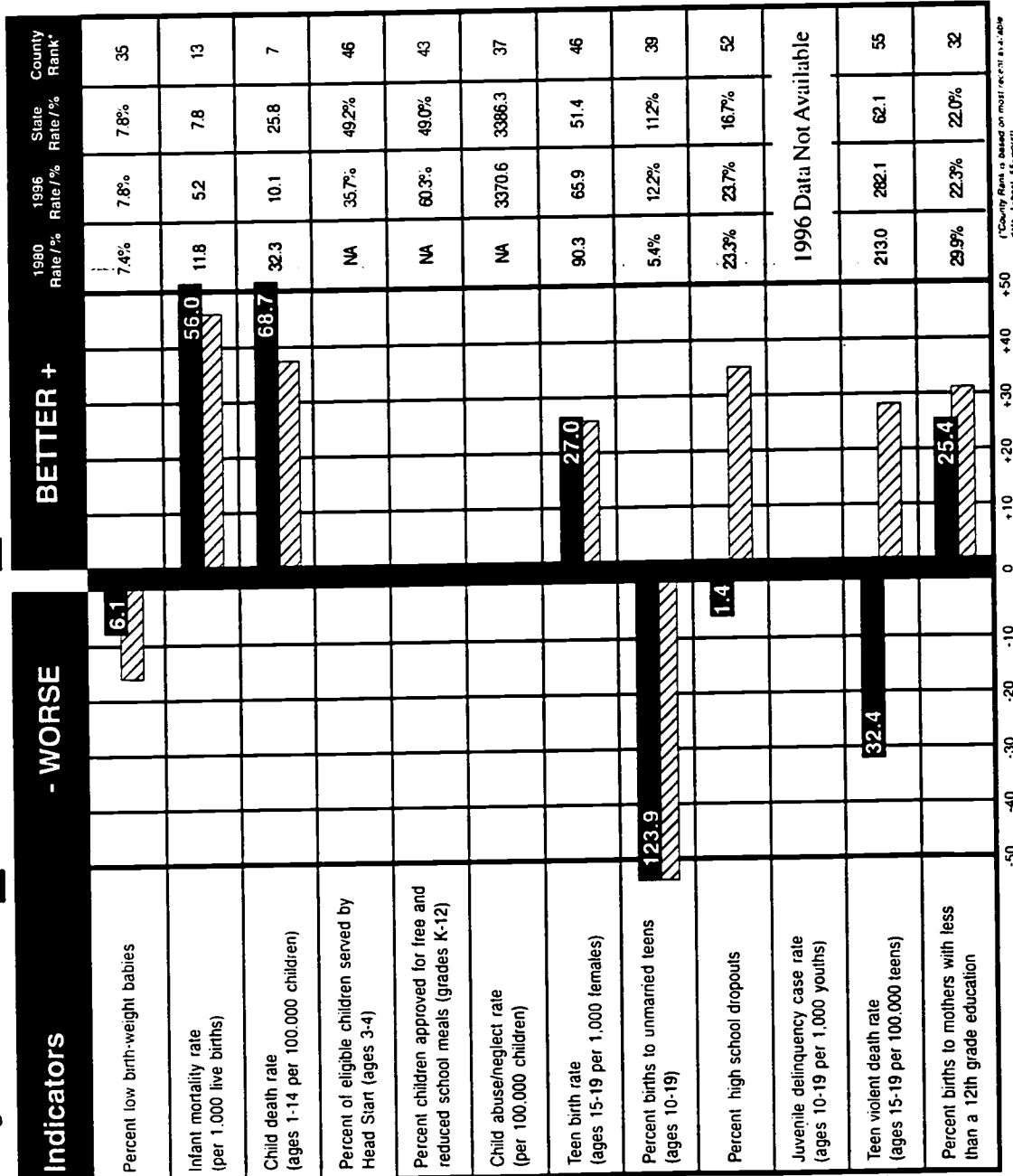
Composite County Rank

53

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



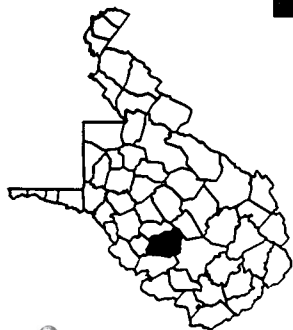
Background Facts

	1980	1996	% Change
Total population	11,442	10,230	-10.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,612	\$6,600	82.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.1%	13.1%	113.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.6%	75.7%	11.9%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,877	2,044	8.9%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,008	1,314	30.4%
Unemployment rate	13.0%	13.6%	4.6%
Total population under age 18	3,258	2,324	-28.7%
Percent population under age 18	28.5%	22.7%	-20.2%
Percent minority population	0.2%	0.3%	84.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.3%	NM

Background Facts

	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in single-parent families	11.7%	16.8%	43.6%
Percent children in poverty	22.0%	34.9%	58.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$21,023	\$20,584	-2.1%

100 YEARS
Camden-Clark Memorial Hospital
For Your Lifetime



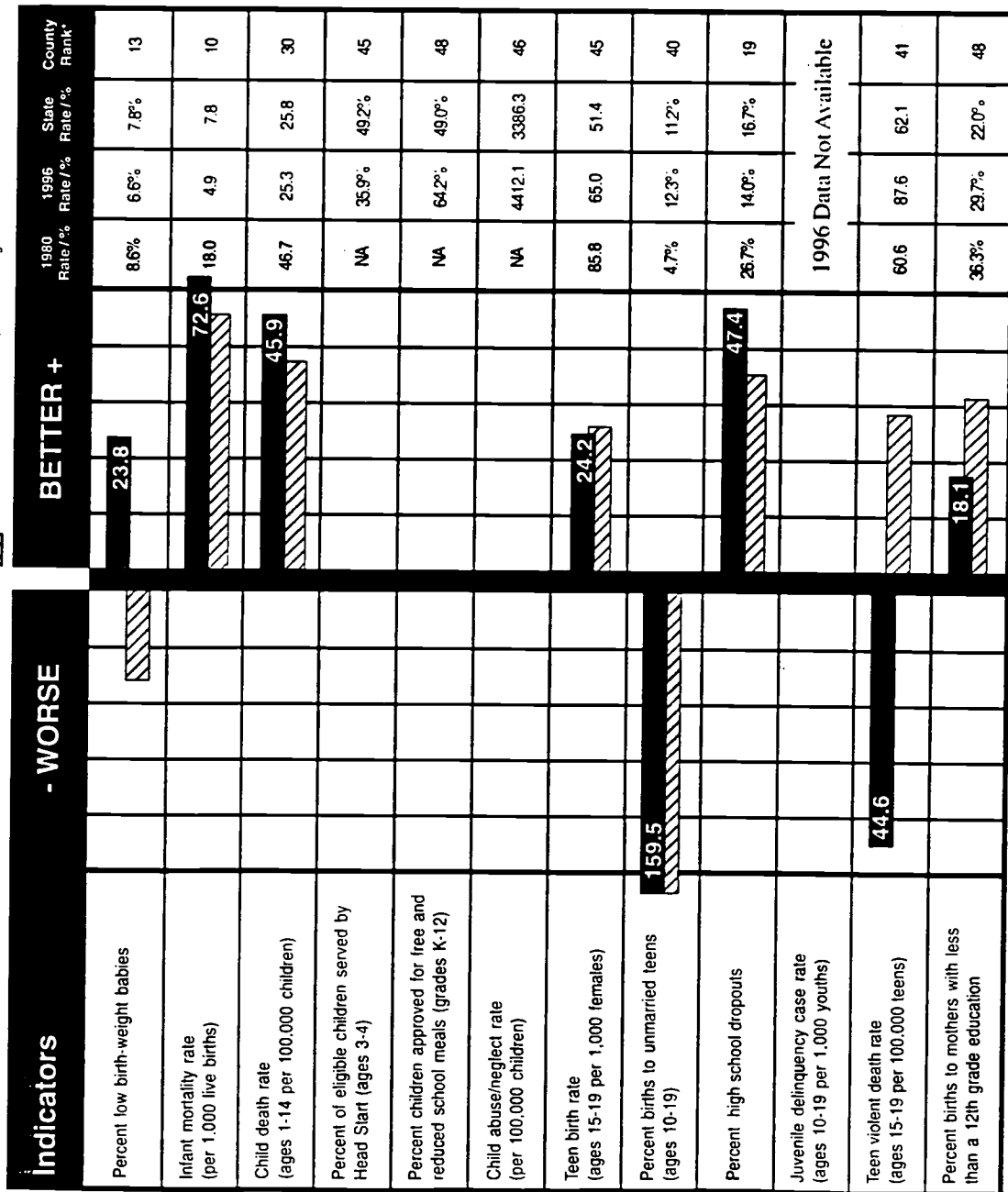
Roane County

Composite County Rank

35

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on 1996 data. Data for 1996 is available for all counties.

Background Facts

Total population	15,952	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,077		\$6,015	95.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.4%		15.4%	84.6%
Percent births with early prenatal care	62.5%		77.2%	23.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	2,276		2,704	18.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,641		2,183	33.0%
Unemployment rate	11.4%		11.6%	1.8%
Total population under age 18	4,493		3,804	-15.3%
Percent population under age 18	28.2%		24.8%	-12.0%
Percent minority population	0.9%		0.7%	-27.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%		0.7%	NA

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.4%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	20.0%	1980	1990	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$21,058	1980	1990	% Change
				-15.0%



FIRST NATIONAL BANK



Traders Bank



Poca Valley Bank



Summers County

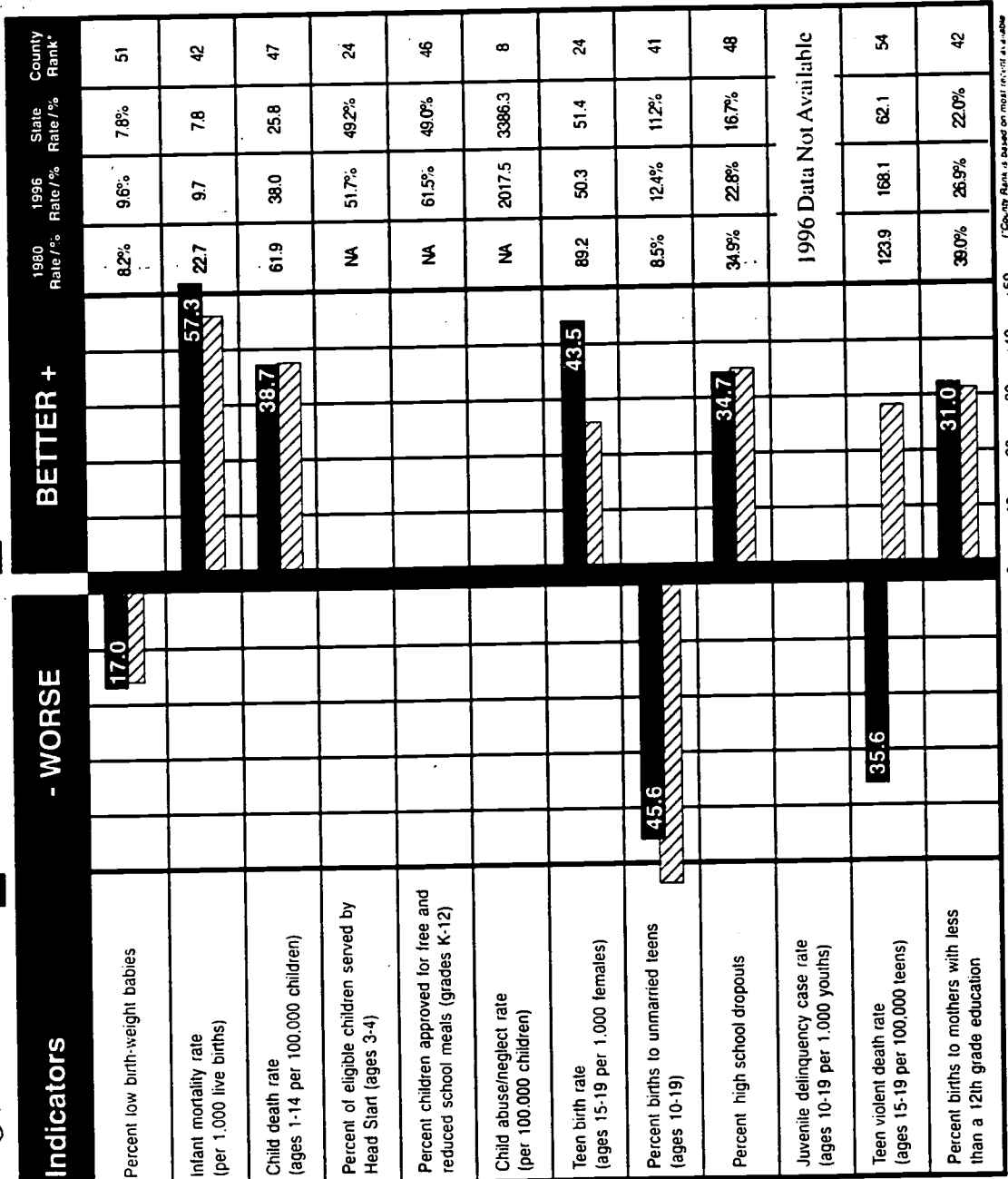
Composite County Rank

54

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



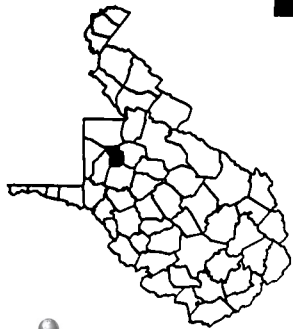
Background Facts

Total population	15,875	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$4,034		\$6,230	54.4%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	16.3%		15.9%	-2.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	53.5%		80.6%	50.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	880		776	-9.8%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,513		1,835	21.3%
Unemployment rate	13.1%		10.0%	-23.7%
Total population under age 18	4,304		3,026	-29.7%
Percent population under age 18	27.1%		21.8%	-19.4%
Percent minority population	7.8%		5.6%	-28.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	4.2%		4.3%	1.6%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	14.2%	17.4%	22.6%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	28.7%	42.1%	46.7%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$20,426	\$20,076	-1.7%

*Compliments of
Jim Justice
and
Bluestone Industries*



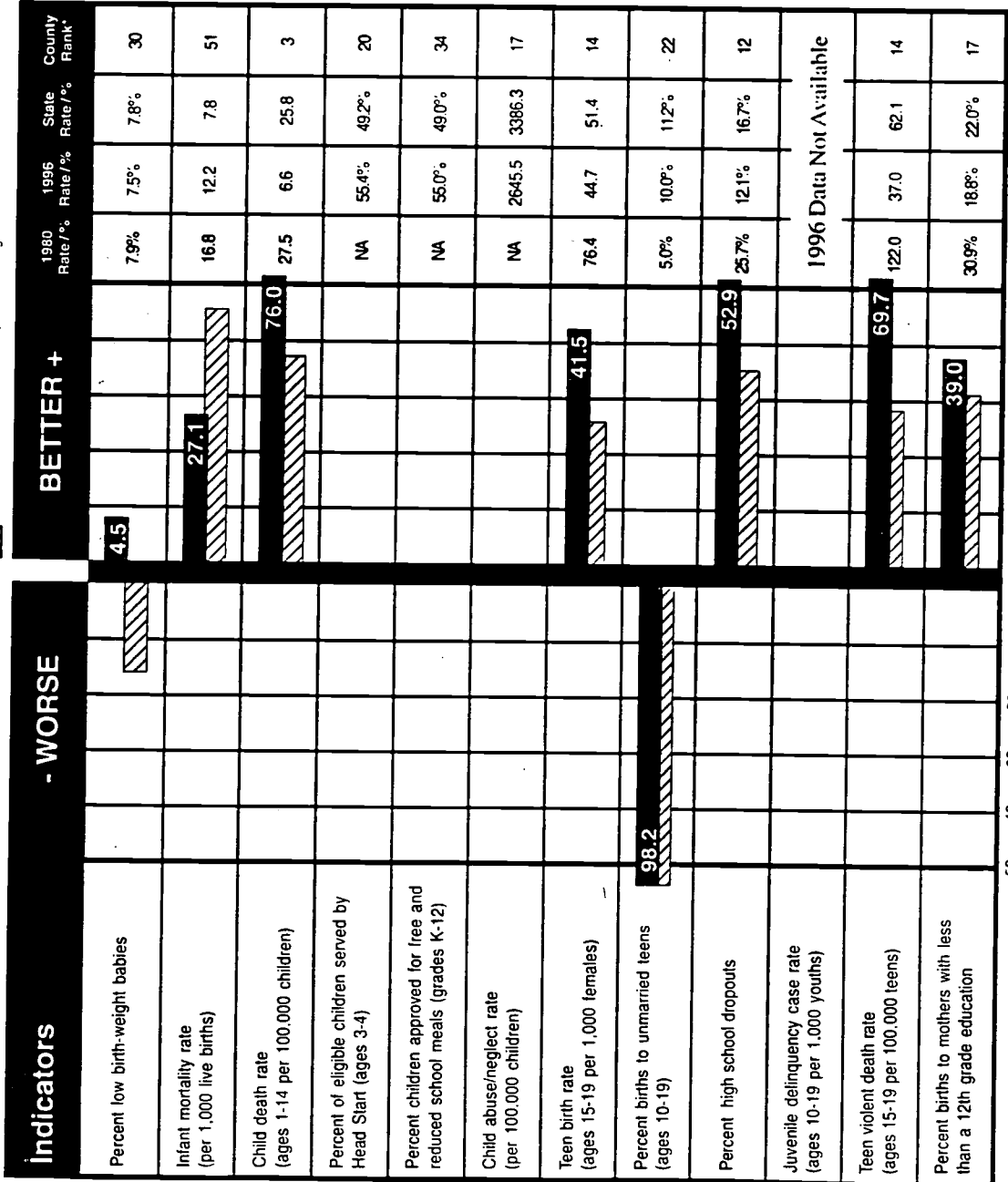
Taylor County

Composite County Rank

16

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	16,584	1996	15,346	% Change	-7.5%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,733	1996	\$6,065	% Change	62.5%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	10.8%	1996	14.2%	% Change	31.5%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.7%	1996	85.5%	% Change	17.6%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,608	1996	1,439	% Change	-10.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,322	1996	1,672	% Change	26.5%
Unemployment rate	11.7%	1996	10.4%	% Change	-11.1%
Total population under age 18	4,900	1996	3,594	% Change	-26.7%
Percent population under age 18	29.5%	1996	23.4%	% Change	-20.7%
Percent minority population	1.0%	1996	1.8%	% Change	70.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.9%	1996	1.4%	% Change	61.1%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	12.0%	1996	16.4%	% Change	36.9%
Percent children in poverty	19.5%	1996	34.0%	% Change	74.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$23,729	1996	\$22,357	% Change	-5.8%

*Compliments of
Woody Thrasher
and
Thrasher Engineering*



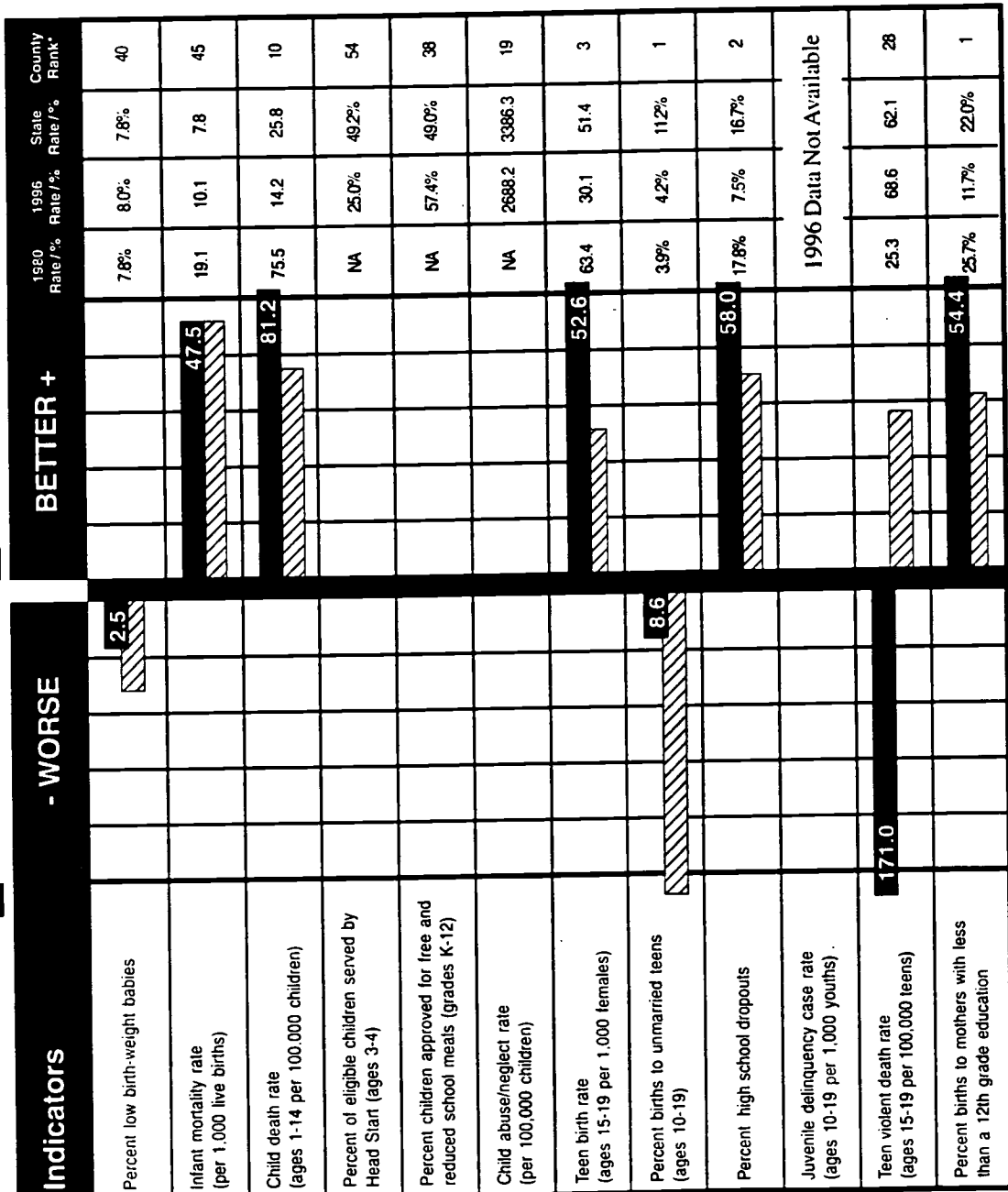
Tucker County

Composite County Rank

6

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

Solid bars indicate county percent change
 Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data (best, 55-worst)

Background Facts

Total population	8,675	1996	7,754	% Change	-10.6%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,393		\$6,076		79.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	5.2%		6.4%		22.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	72.0%		88.6%		23.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,104		1,232		11.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	1,016		1,775		74.7%
Unemployment rate	9.3%		13.1%		40.9%
Total population under age 18	2,497		1,699		-32.0%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%		21.9%		-23.9%
Percent minority population	0.3%		0.5%		65.7%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%		0.6%		NM

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	10.0%	11.3%	13.6%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	20.4%	26.4%	29.4%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$21,317	\$22,825	7.1%

*Compliments of
Ned Payne
and
Piney Land Company*



Tyler County

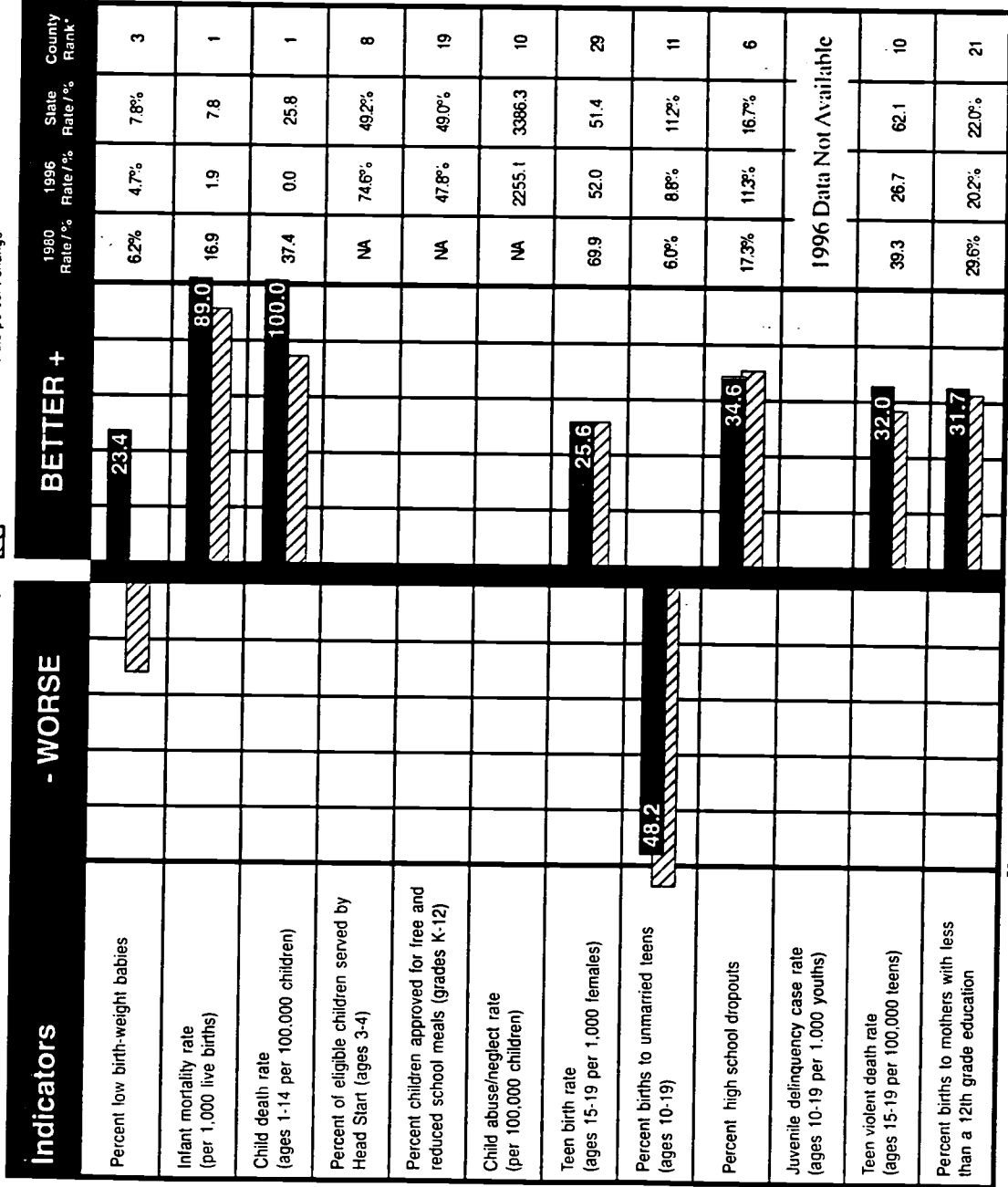
Composite County Rank

3

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on percentage change in rate
Data labels: 55, 10, 10, 10

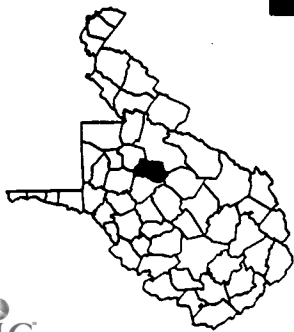
Background Facts

Total population	11,320	10,059	-11.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,429	\$6,855	99.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.3%	12.4%	95.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.4%	80.3%	6.4%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,446	1,437	-0.6%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	815	1,127	38.3%
Unemployment rate	9.3%	7.4%	-20.4%
Total population under age 18	3,515	2,388	-32.1%
Percent population under age 18	31.1%	23.7%	-23.5%
Percent minority population	0.2%	0.7%	242.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.7%	NM

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	8.7%	14.1%	61.1%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	17.1%	26.1%	52.6%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$28,494	\$25,462	-10.6%

*Compliments of
Jack Sanford*



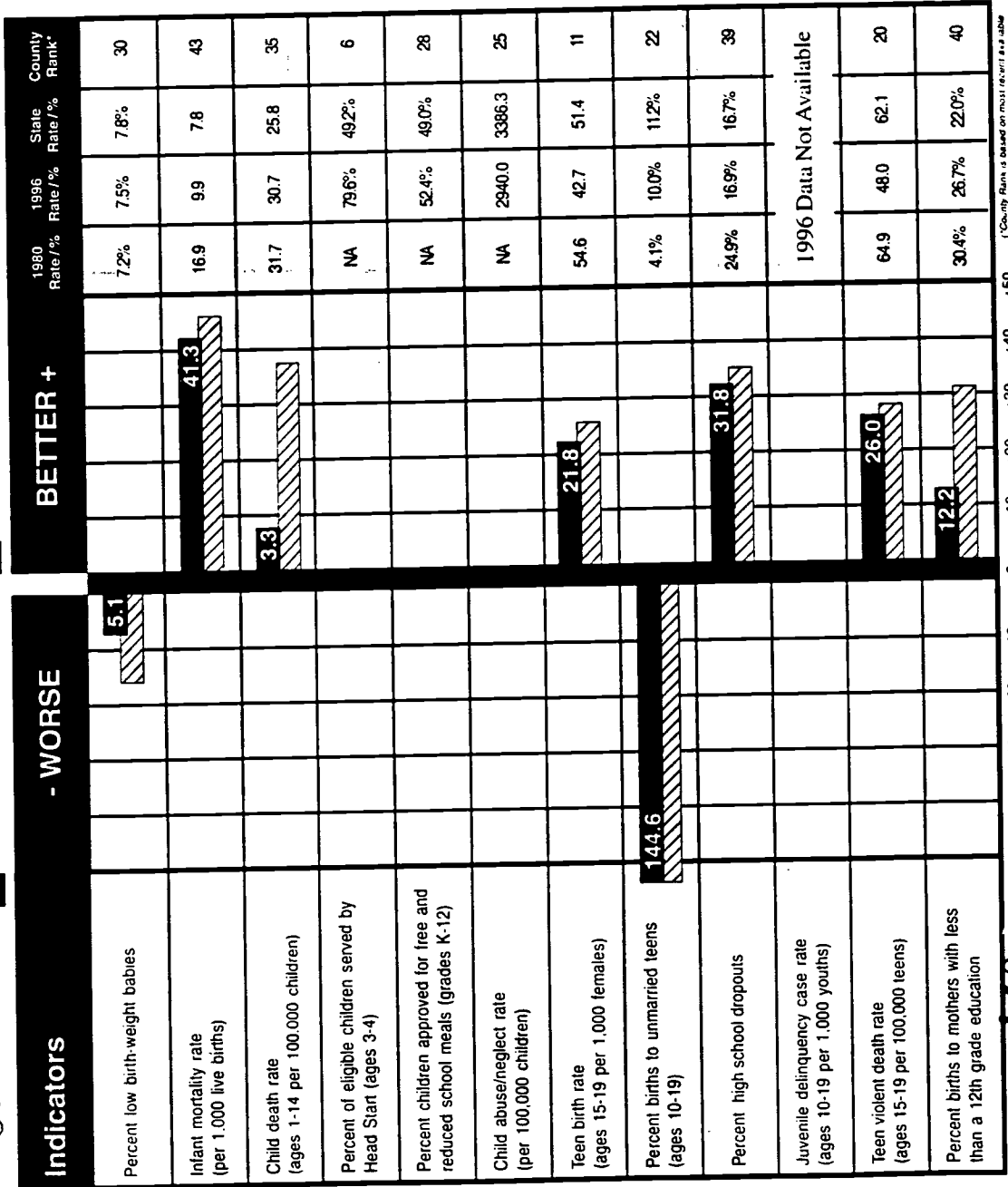
Upshur County

Composite County Rank

28

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on most recent available data (1996, 31-month)

WV KIDS COUNT

Background Facts

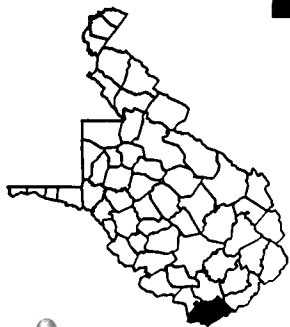
Total population	23,427	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,456		\$5,599	62.0%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	6.0%		15.7%	161.4%
Percent births with early prenatal care	67.9%		84.3%	24.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,824		3,245	-15.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,783		5,172	36.7%
Unemployment rate	7.9%		9.6%	21.5%
Total population under age 18	6,630		5,543	-16.4%
Percent population under age 18	28.3%		23.5%	-17.1%
Percent minority population	0.8%		1.7%	116.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.5%		1.4%	162.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	9.8%	16.3%	66.9%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1990	% Change
	19.7%	35.8%	81.7%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$24,408	\$22,267	-8.8%

“All children need to know that they are loved...”

Children & Poverty
The Bishops Initiative
The United Methodist Church



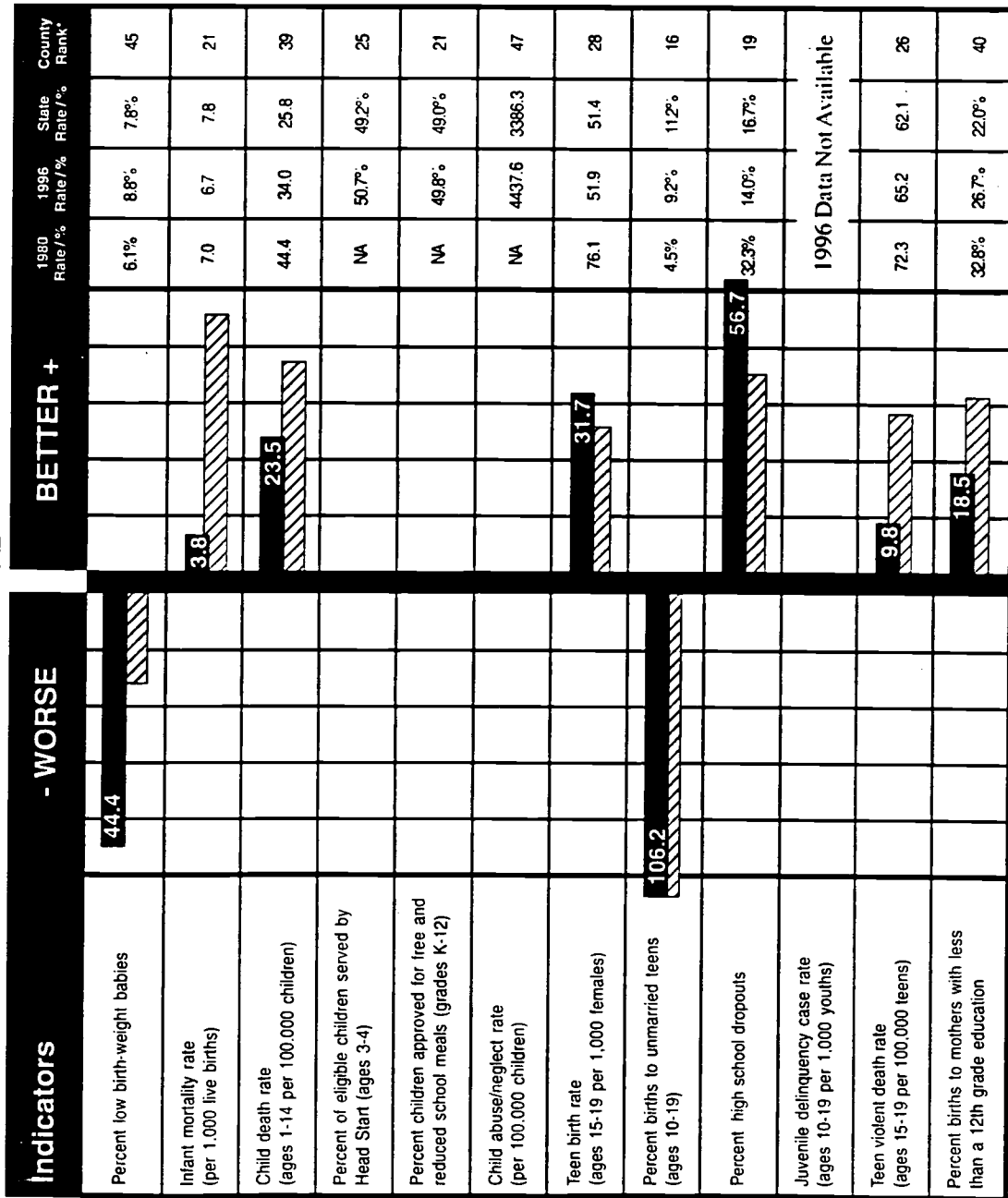
Wayne County

Composite County Rank

29

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on comparison of county rate to state rate.

Background Facts

Total population	46,021	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,362		\$6,109	81.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.0%		14.5%	80.9%
Percent births with early prenatal care	69.5%		89.7%	29.1%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	3,815		4,087	7.1%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	3,067		5,041	64.4%
Unemployment rate	9.5%		7.2%	-24.2%
Total population under age 18	14,134		10,073	-28.7%
Percent population under age 18	30.7%		23.8%	-22.4%
Percent minority population	0.3%		0.7%	153.5%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.2%		0.8%	296.8%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.4%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	23.6%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$24,697	1980	1990	% Change
	\$23,525			-4.7%

*Compliments of
Steve Capelli
and
Pen Coal*



Webster County

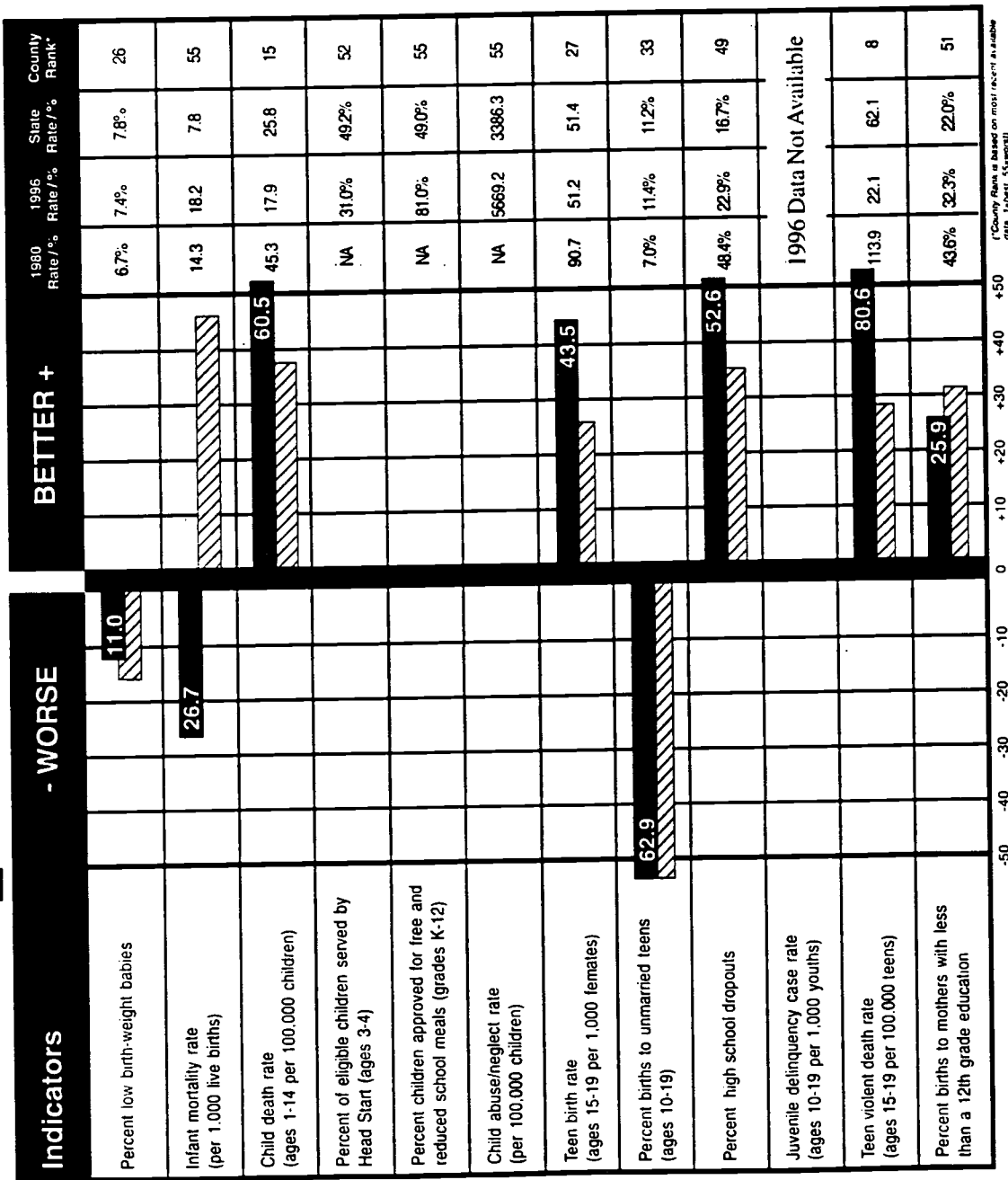
Composite County Rank

51

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



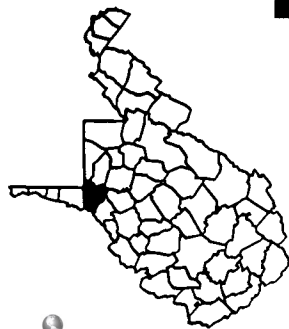
Background Facts

Total population	12,245	10,391	-15.1%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,629	\$6,537	80.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	19.3%	24.7%	28.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	76.1%	81.3%	6.8%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	921	1,234	34.0%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	808	1,065	31.8%
Unemployment rate	15.0%	10.9%	-27.3%
Total population under age 18	3,997	2,651	-33.7%
Percent population under age 18	32.8%	25.5%	-21.8%
Percent minority population	0.1%	0.5%	295.1%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.1%	0.8%	1,407.7%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	13.2%	19.6%	49.2%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	36.0%	52.6%	46.1%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$17,917	\$15,489	-13.6%





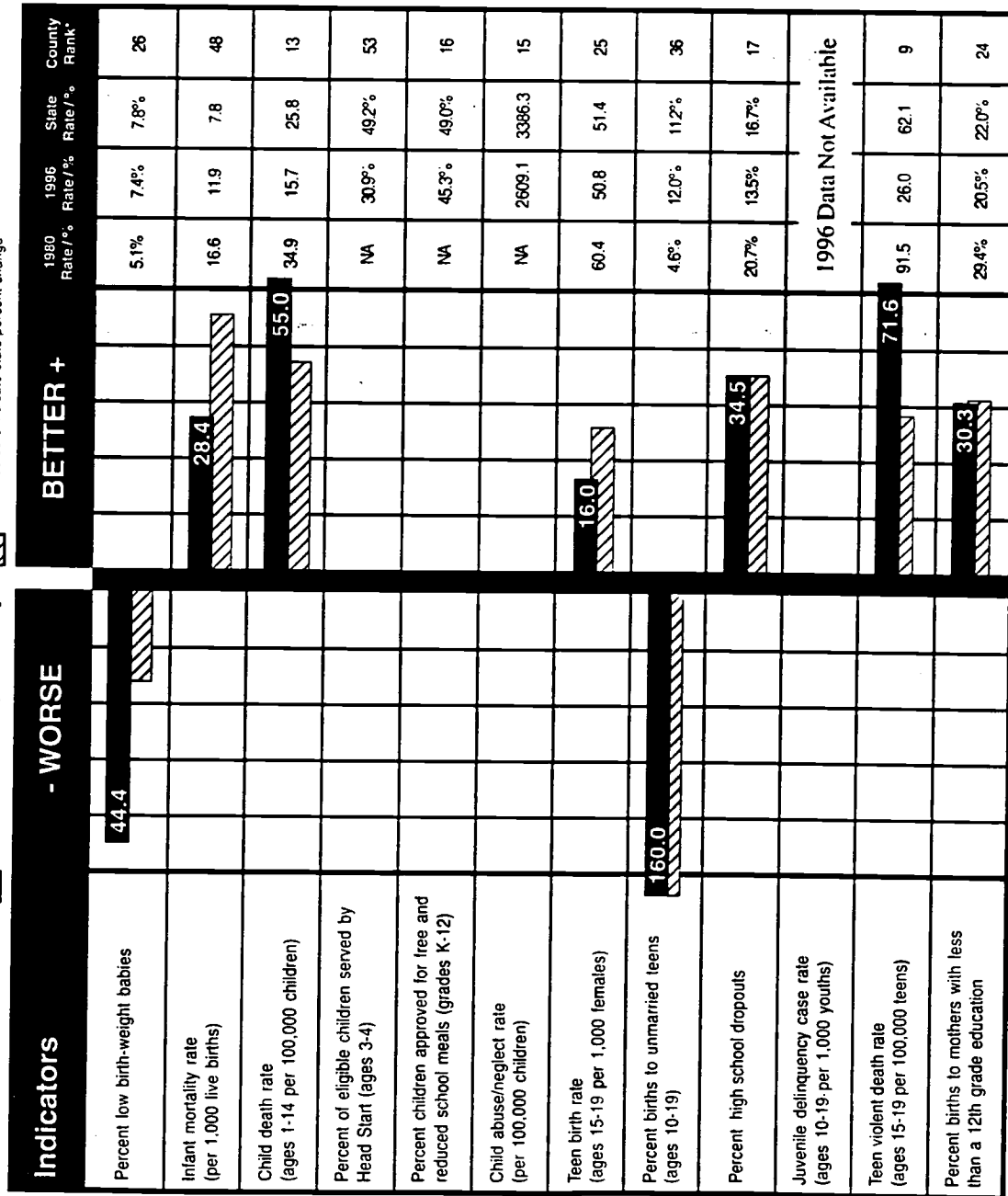
Wetzel County

Composite County Rank

21

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change
▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on worst percent change

Background Facts

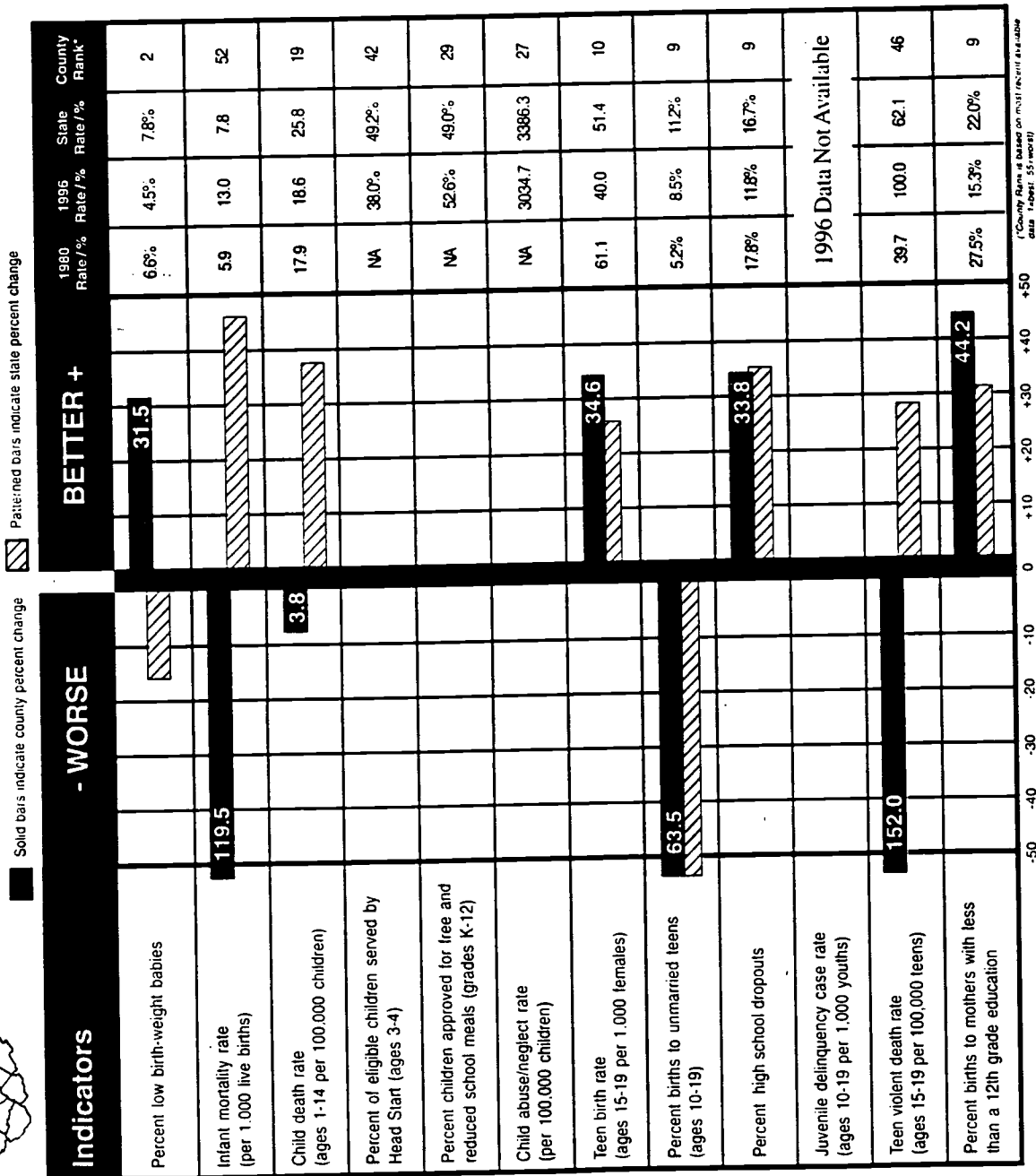
Total population	21,874	18,637	-14.8%
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,480	\$6,044	73.7%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	8.4%	14.3%	70.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	75.3%	77.1%	2.5%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	1,946	1,592	-18.2%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,703	3,562	31.8%
Unemployment rate	10.1%	10.0%	-1.0%
Total population under age 18	6,688	4,453	-33.5%
Percent population under age 18	30.6%	23.9%	-22.0%
Percent minority population	0.3%	0.6%	82.4%
Percent minority population under age 18	0.0%	0.7%	NM

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	1980	1990	% Change
	11.4%	15.9%	39.2%
Percent children in poverty	1980	1995	% Change
	13.2%	31.0%	134.8%
Median family income (1990 dollars)	1980	1990	% Change
	\$30,437	\$28,122	-7.6%

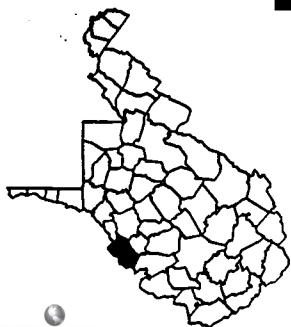
*Compliments of
Dick Klein
and
Alpha Associates*

Percent Change 1980-1996



148

*Compliments of
Bernard McDonough Foundation*



Wood County

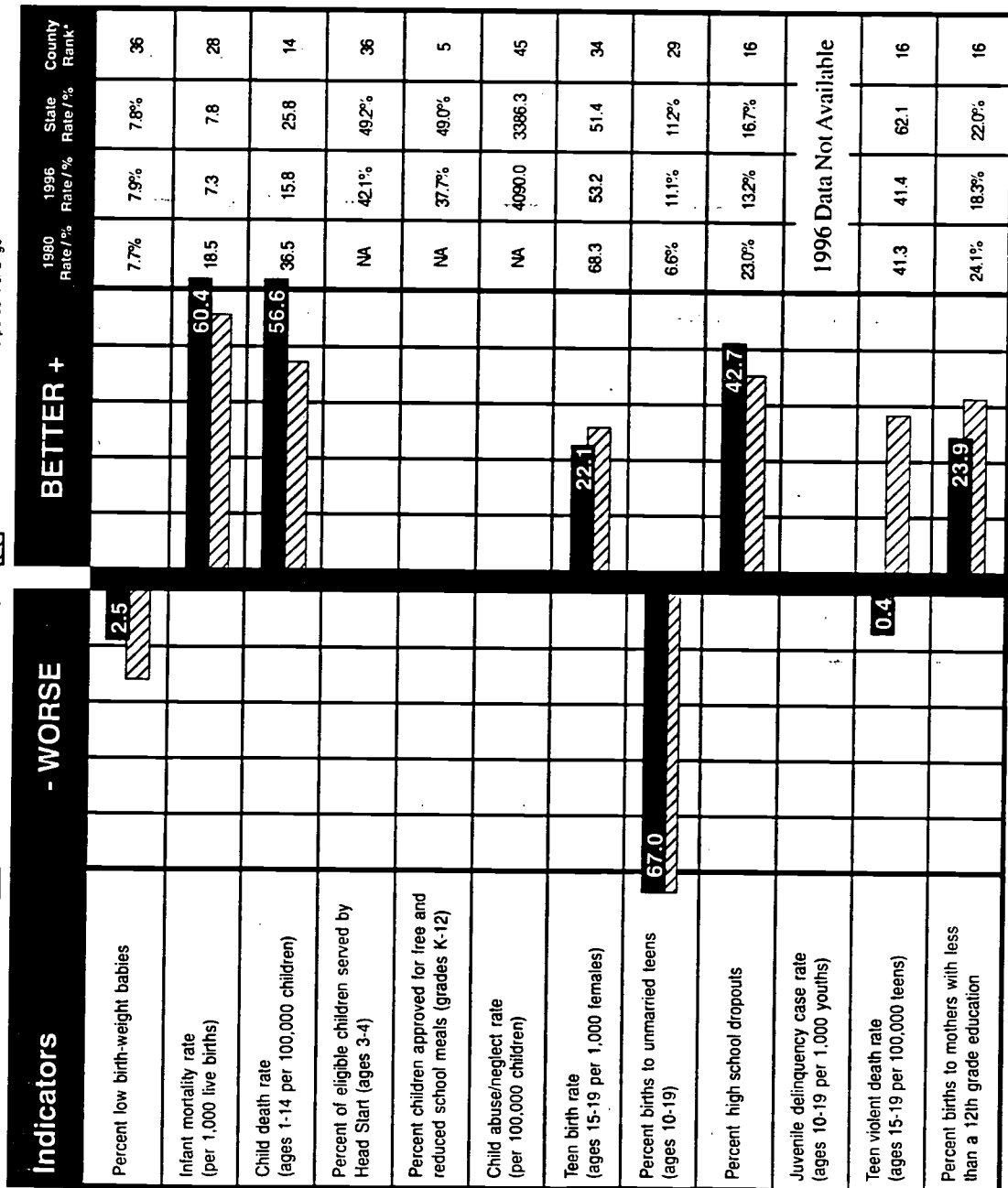
Composite County Rank

13

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



Background Facts

Total population	93,648	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,484		\$5,848	67.9%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	7.5%		11.2%	50.2%
Percent births with early prenatal care	74.9%		82.1%	9.7%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	18,139		17,321	-4.5%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	18,000		26,342	46.3%
Unemployment rate	9.1%		6.0%	-34.1%
Total population under age 18	26,934		19,983	-25.8%
Percent population under age 18	28.8%		22.8%	-20.8%
Percent minority population	1.2%		1.8%	47.2%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.4%		2.5%	74.1%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	12.6%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	14.4%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$29,494	1980	1990	% Change
	\$30,582			3.7%



For Your Lifetime



Wyoming County

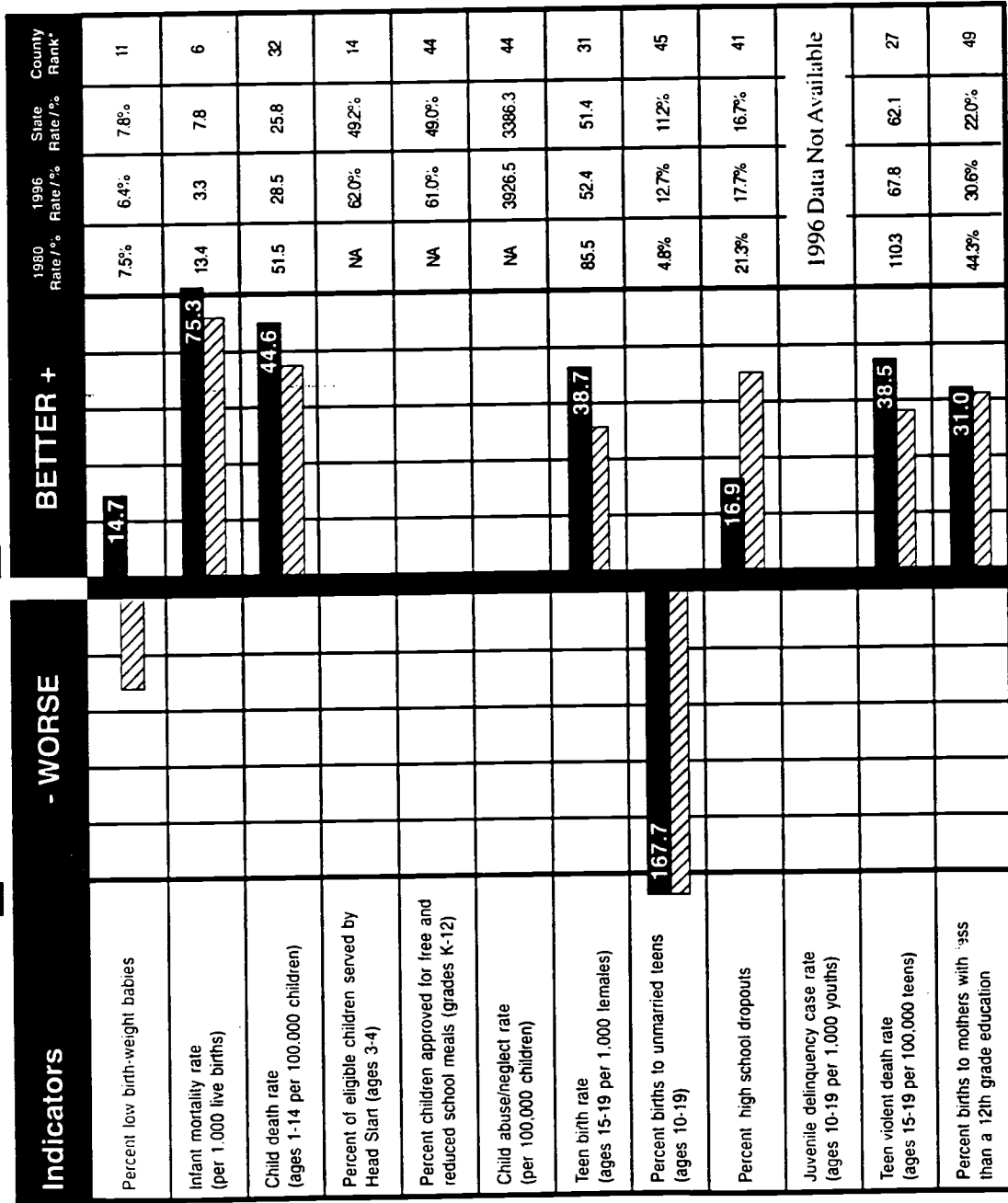
Composite County Rank

32

Percent Change 1980-1996 Trend Data

■ Solid bars indicate county percent change

▨ Patterned bars indicate state percent change



*County Rank is based on multi-county data. (Source: 1996 Census)

WV KIDS COUNT

Background Facts

Total population	35,993	1980	1996	% Change
Education expenditures per pupil (1996 dollars)	\$3,466		\$6,903	99.1%
Percent all families with related children who are AFDC recipients	12.9%		21.5%	66.7%
Percent births with early prenatal care	42.7%		77.1%	80.2%
Total jobs in high-paying industries	6,599		2,753	-58.3%
Total jobs in low-paying industries	2,554		2,803	9.7%
Unemployment rate	12.6%		10.4%	-17.5%
Total population under age 18	12,472		7,473	-40.1%
Percent population under age 18	34.7%		26.8%	-22.8%
Percent minority population	1.4%		1.5%	13.9%
Percent minority population under age 18	1.3%		1.5%	21.5%

Background Facts

Percent children in single-parent families	10.1%	1980	1990	% Change
Percent children in poverty	23.7%	1980	1995	% Change
Median family income (1990 dollars)	\$27,300	1980	1990	% Change
	\$20,730			-24.1%

*Compliments of
Jim Word*

Report on
child poverty
in West Virginia



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APPENDICES

Definitions, Methodology And Sources

How an indicator or background fact is constructed is noted below when the West Virginia University Survey Research Center performs calculations to determine rates or percentages.

Indicator or background fact clarification is provided for those variables needing some explanation about the data; this does not apply to every variable.

Data sources are the same for both state and county unless otherwise specified. There are headings specifying different state and national sources when the national data source is different from the state or county source.

CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT RATE (per 100,000 children)

Indicator:

The Child Abuse/Neglect Rate is the number of referrals of maltreatment and risk of maltreatment accepted for investigation for a three-year average (1994, 1995, 1996) by Child Protective Services per 100,000 children.

How is it Constructed?

At the state and county level, this indicator is a rate per 100,000 children based on a three-year average (1994, 1995, 1996). The rate is calculated as 100,000 times the number of referrals of children under 18 referred for investigation of abuse and neglect divided by the total number of children under 18.

Indicator Clarification:

With the exception of last year's publication, the referral rate cannot be compared to past years' *KIDS COUNT* Data Books' child abuse/neglect rates. A high number of referrals does not correlate perfectly with a high number of child abuse/neglect cases, because more than one referral can be reported for every case eventually opened and

not all referrals reported result in an "opened" substantiated abuse and neglect case. No trend data has been calculated for this indicator due to the unavailability of 1980 data. Due to the implementation of a new data base system, adjustments will be made next year regarding the average. The number of children under 18 is based on 1990 census data. Differences in the reporting procedures of individual counties will affect the individual county rates and, therefore, limit the comparison of rates across counties.

Data Sources: State (1996) West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources / Bureau for Children and Families, and the Office of Social Services.

CHILD DEATH RATE (ages 1-14 per 100,000 children)

Indicator:

The number of deaths due to all causes, of children between the ages of 1-14 years, per 100,000 children.

How is it Constructed:

At a state and county level, this variable is a rate per 100,000 children based on a five-year average (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The rate is calculated as 100,000 times the number of child deaths due to all causes divided by the total number of children ages 1-14. The national rate is calculated in the same manner but is based only on 1996 data and not on a five-year average.

Indicator Clarification:

Due to the small number of child deaths on the county level, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1996 may result in a large percentage change for trend data. The number of children 1-14 years

old is based on 1990 census data.

Data Sources: State (1980, 1996) WV Department of Health And Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. National (1996) Births and Deaths: United States, 1997. Monthly Vital Statistics Report: Vol. 47 No. 4, Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. October 7, 1998.

EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURES PER PUPIL (1996 Dollars)

Background Fact:

Current per pupil expenditures are based on average daily attendance for public school programs kindergarten through 12th grade expressed in 1996 constant dollars.

How is it Constructed?

For comparison purposes, educational expenditure data for 1980-1981 is converted into 1996 dollars; a deflator of .525 was calculated using the Consumer Price Index, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Data Sources: (1980) WV Department of Education: 1980-1981 Educational Statistics Summary Annual Report, Page 137. (1996) WV Department of Education: General Current Expense Fund. Expenditures on a Per Pupil Basis for the 1996-97 Year. U.S. Department of Labor: Bureau of Labor Statistics: Survey CU series CUUR00000SA0.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 live births)

Indicator:

The number of deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this variable is a rate per 1,000 live births based on a five-year average (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of infant deaths due to all causes divided by the number of total births. At the national level, the rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of infant deaths in 1996 divided by the number of live births in 1996.

Indicator Clarification:

Due to the small number of deaths to infants under one year of age on the county level, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1996 may result in a large percentage change for trend data.

Data Sources: State (1980, 1996) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National (1996)** Births and Deaths: United States, 1997. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 47 No. 4, Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. October 7, 1998.

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY CASE RATE (ages 10-19 per 1,000 youths)

Indicator:

The number of delinquency cases reported per 1,000 youths ages 10-21. These cases include children accused of status offenses, misdemeanors, and felonies. This indicator is not available in 1996.

Indicator Clarification:

Although West Virginia enjoys one of the best juvenile delinquency rates in the nation, it is still important to track this measure. We hope that a system will be established

in West Virginia to track the juvenile delinquency rate.

MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME (1990 Dollars)

Background Fact:

That family income at which 50 percent of all families have a higher income and 50 percent of all families have a lower income. Both 1980 and 1990 median family incomes are expressed in constant 1990 dollars.

How is it Constructed?

The median family income is based on census data. To arrive at the 1980 median family income in 1990 dollars, the 1980 median family income was divided by a deflator of .65.

Background Fact Clarification:

Data for this variable is not updatable for 1996 on the county level and is, therefore, presented as 1990 data.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 3C, (Table 74): Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1990)** Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing 1990. Summary Tape File 3C, (Table 107A)/Prepared by the Bureau of the Census-Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992.

PERCENT ALL FAMILIES WITH RELATED CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE CASH ASSISTANCE

Background Fact:

The percentage of families with related children who receive cash assistance is based on those open cases el-

gible on a monthly basis (pending approval cases are not included). Cases must be eligible to receive a payment and a payment must be issued for the month eligible. Eligibility is income based.

How is it Constructed?

To arrive at the percentage, the total of cash assistance cases is divided by the number of families with related children. Families with related children are comprised of married couples with related children, female heads with related children, and male heads with related children. At a state and county level, this background fact is a percentage based on a three-year average (FY 1978-79, 1979-80, and 1980-81 for 1980 and FY 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1996-97 for 1997.)

Background Fact Clarification:

In 1996, federal legislation replaced the Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) program with a block grant to states to finance a new program called Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF). TANF was implemented in West Virginia on January 1, 1997, in a few counties. By December 31, 1997, TANF was implemented in every county. Cash assistance payments for 1996 are based on an average of state fiscal years 1995, 1996 and 1997 numbers. This latter fiscal year, 1997, includes six months of both AFDC in some counties and TANF cases in other counties. The numbers for cash assistance also represent a recalculation of the total caseload from the time when both programs were being operated, that is, state fiscal year 1997. Eligibility requirements for AFDC and TANF are different.

Data Limitations:

The number of families with related children is based on 1990 census data.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

Data Sources: (1980) WV Department of Health and Human Resources. Fiscal Year 1979, 1980, and 1981; unpublished annual bulletin from Office of Audits, Research and Analysis. (1996) WV Department of Health and Human Resources. Fiscal Year 1995, 1996, and 1997 for 1996; unpublished annual bulletin from Office of Audits, Research and Analysis.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO MOTHERS WITH LESS THAN A 12TH GRADE EDUCATION

Indicator:
The percentage of all births to mothers with less than a 12th grade education.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this indicator is based on a three-year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The numerator is number of births to mothers "with less than a 12th grade education" divided by the total number of births. The national figure is calculated in the same way as state and county figures but is based on data from one year, 1996.

Indicator Clarification:

The base population is all births to mothers, regardless of age.

Data Sources: **State (1980, 1996)** WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National (1996)** Report of Final Natality Statistics: United States, 1996. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 46 No. 11, Suppl., Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. June 30, 1998.

PERCENT BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED TEENS

(ages 10-19)

Indicator: At a state and county level, this indicator is the percentage of live births to unmarried women ages 10-19. At a national level, the percentage represents live births to unmarried women under 20 years of age.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this indicator is based on a three-year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The numerator is the number of births to unmarried teens ages 10-19; the denominator is the total number of births. National data is calculated by dividing the number of births to unmarried teens under age 20 by the total number of births. National data is based only on 1996 data.

Indicator Clarification:

Due to the small number of births to unmarried teens in some counties, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1996 with small numbers will result in a large percentage change for trend data. The base population for this indicator is the births to all mothers, regardless of age.

Data Sources: **State (1980, 1996)** WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. **National (1996)** Report of Final Natality Statistics: United States, 1996. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 46 No. 11, Suppl., Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. June 30, 1998.

PERCENT BIRTHS WITH EARLY PRENATAL CARE

Indicator:

The percentage of live births that are to women who began prenatal care in the first three months of their pregnancy.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this background fact is a percentage based on a three-year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The numerator for the variable is the number of mothers with first trimester care; the denominator is all births with known prenatal care. National data is based on the number of mothers receiving first trimester prenatal care in 1996 divided by the total births with known prenatal care during 1996.

Background Fact Clarification:

Live births to women who did not report the month in which prenatal care was started are excluded from the computation. This background fact does not tell us anything about the quality, frequency, or consistency of care that the mother received during this time. Lack of early prenatal care does not in and of itself cause poor birth outcomes.

Data Sources: **State (1980, 1996)** WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV.

PERCENT CHILDREN APPROVED FOR FREE OR REDUCED-PRICED SCHOOL MEALS (grades K-12)

Indicator:

The percent of all enrolled children in grades K-12 who

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Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

applied and were approved for free or reduced-priced school meals.

How Is It Constructed?

At a county and state level, this variable is a percentage based on 1997-1998 fiscal year data. The numerator is the number of submitted and approved applications for free or reduced-priced school meals in grades K-12; the denominator is the total student enrollment in grades K-12.

Indicator Clarification:

No trend data has been calculated for this indicator. Data for this variable is not updatable for 1997 at the national level and is, therefore, presented as 1996 data. The number of children who are eligible for free and reduced school meals is thought to be undercounted since not all eligible persons return the application form. We know that many children do not apply for free or reduced-priced school meals, especially those of junior high and high school age. While this indicator is being used in lieu of the "Percent Children in Poverty," the actual percentage receiving free or reduced school meals will be higher since eligibility for free school meals is at 130% of poverty and reduced-priced school meals is at 185% of poverty.

Data Sources: State (1997) West Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition, Charleston, WV. West Virginia Child Nutrition Programs, Percentage of Needy Students, October Fiscal Year 1996-1997. National (1996) United States Department of Agriculture: Office of Analysis & Evaluation, Food and Consumer Service. October Fiscal Year 1996-1997.

PERCENT CHILDREN IN POVERTY

Background Fact:

The percentage of children under 18 years of age who live in poverty as defined by the U.S. Bureau of the Census. The poverty threshold for a family of four persons was \$16,029 in 1995.

How is it Constructed?

To arrive at the percent children in poverty, the total number of children below the poverty level is divided by the total number of children under age 18.

Background Fact Clarification:

The 1995 estimates of poverty use the three-year average of the March CPS income and poverty estimates (1993-1995 for 1995) at the county level and single-year CPS estimates at the state level as dependent variable, and administrative data from aggregation of tax returns and food stamp records, as predictor variables.

Data Sources: State (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Characteristics of the Population, Chapter D, Detailed Population Characteristics. United States Summary (PC80-1-D1-A), Table 304, Washington: Bureau of the Census (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1984. (1995) (Table D95-54): Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates Program, Bureau of the Census.

PERCENT CHILDREN IN SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

Background Fact:

The percentage of "own" children under age 18 who live in families headed by a person without a spouse present in the home. "Own" children include the family head's children by birth, marriage, or adoption.

How Is it Constructed?

To arrive at the percent children in single parent families, the total number of children in single parent families is divided by the total number of children under age 18. Single parents are comprised of female-headed families and male-headed families with no spouse present. Numbers for this formula are based on census data.

Background Fact Clarification:

Data for this variable is not updatable at the state or county level and is, therefore, presented as 1990 data.

Data Sources: State (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 2 (WV), (Tables B12 and B13); Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. (1990) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1990: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table P21); Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. National (1980) Bureau of the Census. 1980 Census of Population. Characteristics of the Population. Chapter B, General Population Characteristics. PC80-1-B1. Bureau of the Census, 1983. (1990) 1992 KIDS COUNT Data Book-State Profiles of Child Well-Being. Center for the Study of Social Policy, Suite 503, 1250 Eye Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. (While national data for this variable is not presented in tabular form, it is referred to in the text.)

PERCENT OF HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS

Indicator:

The state percentage of students in grades 7-12 who leave a public school before graduation without transferring to another school. For the national percentage, it is the per-

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

centage of teenagers ages 16-19 who are not enrolled in school and not high school graduates.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this indicator is based on a three-year average of school years 1978-79, 1979-80, and 1980-81 for 1980 and 1994-95, 1995-96, and 1996-97 for 1996. This percent is based on the number of 7th through 12th grade dropouts divided by the number of 7th through 12th grade dropouts plus the number of 12th grade graduates. Nationally, this indicator is based on an analysis of CPS files with data from three years, 1994-1996.

Data Sources: State (1980, 1996) WV Department of Education. Unpublished special tabulations by the WV Department of Education. Charleston, West Virginia. National Special Tabulations of 1984-1996 Current Population Survey, U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

PERCENT LOW BIRTH-WEIGHT BABIES

Indicator:

The percentage of live births recorded as low birth weight. Babies of low birth weight are those who weigh under 2,500 grams (5.5 pounds) at birth.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this indicator is a percentage based on a three year average (1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The numerator for this variable is number of low birth-weight babies; the denominator is total births for all ages. National data is the number of low birth-weight babies in 1996 divided by the total births for all ages in 1996.

Indicator Clarification:

While the low birth-weight indicator encompasses two levels of birth weight, those of moderately low weight and very low weight, it is those surviving infants of very low birth weight who research has shown to have notably higher odds of impaired development; this fact can be masked when looking at the two levels of low birth weight in combination.

Data Sources: State (1980, 1996) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. National (1996) Births and Deaths: United States, 1997. Monthly Vital Statistics Report; Vol. 47 No. 4, Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. October 7, 1998.

PERCENT MINORITY POPULATION

Background Fact:

The percentage of the total population that is identified as minority.

How is it Constructed?

To arrive at percent minority population, the minority population is divided by the total population. Numbers for this formula are based on 1980 census data and 1996 estimated census data.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 7); Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. (1996) Bureau of the Census. 1990-97 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1996: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

PERCENT MINORITY POPULATION UNDER AGE 18

Background Fact:

The percentage of the population under age 18 identified as minority.

How is it Constructed?

To arrive at the percent minority population under age 18, the total minority population under 18 is divided by the total population under 18. Numbers for this formula are based on 1980 census data and 1996 estimated census data.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C (Table 12); Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. (1996) Bureau of the Census. 1990-97 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1996: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE CHILDREN SERVED BY HEAD START (AGES 3-4)

Indicator:

The percentage of all eligible 3-4 year olds in funded positions with Head Start.

How is it Constructed?

At the state and county, this variable is a percentage based on 1998 data. The numerator for this indicator is the number of funded positions for children ages 3-5; the denominator is the estimated number of 3-4 year olds in poverty in 1990. At the national level, the denominator is the estimated number of children ages 3-4 in poverty for 1997.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

Indicator Clarification:

This indicator is based on data from 1998; no trend data has been calculated for this indicator. The reader will notice that in some counties, the percentage of 3-4 year olds funded by Head Start exceeds the percentage of children in poverty; this is due to the fact that guidelines for the program allow up to 10% of those children enrolled in Head Start to exceed the income level. While this data is presented as the percentage of 3-4 year olds in poverty, this is not meant to imply that 3-4 year olds are the only group served by Head Start.

Data Sources: State (1998) Governor's Cabinet on Children and Families, (304)558-0600, Capitol Complex, Charleston, West Virginia. National (1997) Number of children in poverty who are 3-4 years old, were supplied by the Head Start Bureau, Administration of Children, Youth, and Families, Health and Human Services. (1998) Estimated number of children in funded positions was provided by the National Head Start Association, Research and Evaluation Division.

PERCENT POPULATION UNDER AGE 18

Background Fact:

The percentage of the total population under age 18.

How is it Constructed?

To arrive at the percent population under 18, the population under 18 is divided by the total population. Numbers for this formula are based on 1980 census data for 1980 and 1996 estimated census data for 1996.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 10); Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WVU Office of Health Services Re-

search), 1992. (1996) Bureau of the Census. 1990-97 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin. 1996: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

TEEN BIRTH RATE

(ages 15-19 per 1,000 females)

Indicator:

The number of live births to teens ages 15-19 per 1,000 females ages 15-19 years.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this indicator is a rate per 1,000 females ages 15-19 based on an average of 1978, 1979, and 1980 data for 1980 and 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996. The rate is calculated as 1,000 times the number of teen births to females ages 15-19 divided by the total number of females ages 15-19. National data is calculated in the same manner except that it is based on 1996 data and not on a three-year average.

Indicator Clarification:

The base population for this indicator is the total number of females, ages 15-19.

Data Sources: State (1980, 1996) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV; 1980 is an average of 1978, 1979, and 1980; and 1996 data is an average of 1994, 1995, and 1996. National (1996) Report of Final Natality Statistics: United States, 1996. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 46 No. 11, Suppl., Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. June 30, 1998.

TEEN VIOLENT DEATH RATE

(ages 15-19 per 100,000 teens)

Indicator:

The number of deaths from homicides, suicides and unintentional injuries to teens ages 15-19 years per 100,000 teens.

How is it Constructed?

At a state and county level, this indicator is a five-year average (1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980 for 1980 and 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996 for 1996). The teen injury death rate is a composite of the number of deaths for injury mortality from homicide, suicide, and unintentional injuries. The rate is calculated as 100,000 times the number of teen injury deaths divided by the total number of youths ages 15-19. The national rate is calculated in the same manner, but it is based only on 1992 data and not on a three-year average.

Indicator Clarification:

Due to the small number of teen deaths on the county level, a small change in the actual number from the period 1980 to 1996 will result in a large percentage change for trend data. 1996 national data is not available at this time; 1992 national data has been used. The number of youths between 15-19 years old is based on 1990 census data.

Data Sources: State (1980, 1996) WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau of Public Health, Office of Epidemiology and Health Promotion, Health Statistics Center, Charleston, WV. National (1992) Advance Report of Final Mortality Statistics, 1992. Monthly Vital Statistics Report, Vol. 43 No. 6, Suppl., Hyattsville, Maryland: National Center for Health Statistics. 1994.

Definitions, Methodology And Sources, continued

TOTAL JOBS IN HIGH-PAYING INDUSTRIES

Background Fact:

The percentage change in the number of jobs in high-paying industries which a county has gained or lost from 1980 to 1996. Jobs in the mining, manufacturing, construction, transportation and financial sectors are classified as "high-paying" professions.

Data Sources: (1980) U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, April, 1991. **(1996)** U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, May, 1997.

TOTAL JOBS IN LOW-PAYING INDUSTRIES

Background Fact:

The percentage change in the number of jobs in low-paying industries which a county has gained or lost from 1980 to 1996. Jobs in agricultural services, wholesale and retail trade and services sectors are considered as "low-paying" professions.

Data Sources: (1980) U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, April, 1991. **(1996)** U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, Table CA25, May, 1997.

TOTAL POPULATION

Background Fact:

The total population as reported by the Bureau of the Census.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 1): Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1996)** Bureau of the Census. Population Distribution and Population Estimates

Branches: Time Series of State and County Population Estimates and Components of Population Change: 1990-97. Washington. **National (1996)** Bureau of the Census. Population Division: United States Population Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1990 to 1997 (PPL-41). Washington.

TOTAL POPULATION UNDER AGE 18

Background Fact:

The total population under age 18 as reported by the Bureau of the Census.

Background Fact Clarification:

Data for this variable for 1996 is based upon population estimates calculated by the Bureau of the Census.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of the Census. Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Summary Tape File 1C, (Table 10): Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington: The Bureau (WV University Office of Health Services Research), 1992. **(1996)** Bureau of the Census. 1990-97 County Estimates by Age, Sex, and Race/Hispanic Origin, 1996: Prepared by the Bureau of the Census, Washington.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

Background Fact:

The number of people who are actively looking for work but are unemployed as a percentage of the civilian labor force.

Background Fact Clarification:

Data, beginning in 1994, are not directly comparable with data for 1993 and earlier years because of the introduction of a major redesign of the Current Population Survey (household survey) questionnaire.

How is it Constructed?

This variable is a percentage based on the West Virginia Labor Force Statistics annual average, 1996. To calculate the unemployment rate, the total number of unemployed persons is divided by the number of persons in the civilian labor force.

Data Sources: (1980) Bureau of Employment Programs, Prepared by Labor and Economic Research, (BLS series): unpublished special tabulations. **(1996)** West Virginia Bureau of Employment Programs. (www.state.wv.us/bep/)

Additional Poverty Resources

1. *A Church for All God's Children* (1998.) CHILDREN & POVERTY, THE BISHOPS INITIATIVE. The United Methodist Church, West Virginia Area, 900 Washington St., E., Charleston, WV 25301.
2. Barreras, Ricardo E., *The Working Poor in America: A Bibliographical Resource*. WORKING PAPER SERIES. The Foundation for Child Development, 345 East 46 Street, New York, NY 10017-3562.
3. Bernstein, Jared, *Low-Wage Labor Market Indicators By City and State: The Constraints Facing Welfare Reform*. No. 118 (Oct. 1997.) The Economic Policy Institute.
4. Citro, Constance F. and Robert T. Michael, eds., *Measuring Poverty: A New Approach* (1995). National Academy Press, 2101 Constitution Ave., NW, Box 285, Washington, DC 20418.
5. Dalaker, Joseph and Mary Naifeh, U.S. Bureau of the Census, CURRENT POPULATION REPORTS, Series P60-201, *Poverty in the United States: 1997*, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, 1998.
6. *Focus* (Spring 1995) (Vol. 16, No. 3). University of Wisconsin-Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty, 1180 Observatory Dr., 3412 Social Science Bldg., Madison, Wisconsin 53706.
7. *Immigration and the Growth of Poverty in Rural America* (May 1998). (Issue No. 30) The Urban Institute, 2100 M Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20037 <www.urban.org>.
8. *In Strong Economy, A Record-High Number of Poor Children are in Working Families* (Sept. 24, 1998.) <<http://www.childrensdefense.org/release980924.html>>
9. *Infants and Toddlers: Dramatic Increases in Numbers Living in Poverty* (April 1994). U.S. General Accounting Office, Washington, DC 20548-0001.
10. Lazere, Edward, *The Poverty Despite Work Handbook: Data and Guidelines for Preparing a Report on the Working Poor in Each State*. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 820 First Street, N.E., Suite 510, Washington, DC 20002 <www.cbpp.org>.
11. *News & Issues*. (Summer/Fall 1998) (Vol. 8, No. 2.) National Center for Children in Poverty, The Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University, 154 Haven Avenue, NY, NY 10032-1180 <<http://lcpmcnet.columbia.edu/dept/nccp/>>.
12. O'Hare, William. "A New Look at Poverty in America," *Population Bulletin*, vol. 51, no. 2 (Washington, DC: Population Reference Bureau, Inc., September 1996).
13. "Poverty Rates Down, Household Income Up." *Washington Social Legislation Bulletin*. (Sept. 28, 1998) (vol. 35, issue 42.) The Child Welfare League of America, Inc., Social Legislation Information Service, 440 First St., NW, Washington, DC 20001-2085.
14. *POVERTY RESEARCH NEWS* (Winter 1998)(Vol. II, No. 1.) The newsletter of the Northwestern University/University of Chicago Joint Center for Poverty Research, 2046 Sheridan Road, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 60208-4108.
15. *PRRAC Network Directory: Poverty & Race Research Action Council*, 1711 Connecticut Avenue, NW, #207, Washington, DC 20009.
16. *Responding to the 1996 Welfare Law, CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW* (Jan.-Feb. 1998) (Vol. 31.) National Clearinghouse for Legal Services, Inc., 205 W. Monroe St., 2nd Floor, Chicago, IL 60606-5013 <HN0111>; Internet ncls@interaccess.com; Web at <http://www.nclsplp.org>
17. *The Future of Children*. Center for the Future of Children, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, 300 Second St., Suite 102, Los Angeles, CA 94022. Various issues.
18. *The Growing Divide: Inequality and the Roots of Economic Insecurity, TRAINERS MANUAL* (1997.) United for a Fair Economy, 37 Temple Place, Fifth Floor, Boston, MA 02111 <www.stw.org>.
19. "Welfare Block Grants: Advantages and Disadvantages," *SPECIAL REPORT SERIES SR #61*, (April 1995.) University of Wisconsin-Madison, Institute for Research on Poverty.
20. *Welfare Reform Briefs*. The Urban Institute. Various issues.

Notes On Statistics And Methodology

The 1998 *WV KIDS COUNT Data Book* consists of a state profile, a minority profile, a poverty profile, and 55 county profiles, all of which document the status of children in West Virginia. Most of the indicators and background facts are expressed as percentages or rates. Indicators and Background Facts presented as actual numbers include: Total Population, Total Population Under Age 18, Education Expenditures per Pupil (1996 dollars), Total Jobs in High-Paying Industries, Total Jobs in Low-Paying Industries, and Median Family Income (1990 dollars). Actual numbers behind the percentages and rates appear in the Appendix.

Trend data is based on the change between 1980 and 1996. In some cases including Percent Low Birth-Weight Babies, Teen Birth Rate, Percent Births to Unmarried Teens, and Percent Births to Mothers with Less Than a 12th Grade Education, the 1980 value is the average of 1978, 1979 and 1980, and the 1996 value is the average of 1994, 1995, and 1996. For indicators such as Child Death Rate, Infant Mortality Rate, and Teen Injury Death Rate, the 1980 value is the average of 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, and 1980, and the 1996 value is the average of 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1996. The 1980 Percent High School Dropouts is the average of three school years: 1978-79, 1979-80, and 1980-81; the 1996 Percent High School Dropouts is the average of the 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 school years. Trend data is not available on four of the indicators. In this year's *KIDS COUNT Data Book*, the Juvenile Delinquency Case Rate data are not available, Child Abuse/Neglect Rate data are based on the average of 1994, 1995, and 1996, Head Start data are from 1998, cash assistance data are based on the average of state fiscal years 1995, 1996 and 1997; and Free and Reduced School Meals data are based on the 1997-98 school year.

A composite county rank appears in the upper right corner of each county profile. It was derived by converting the county rates and percentages (on each indicator) into a z score. This was done in order to give each indicator equal weight. Then each county's z scores were added together to form a county composite z score. Finally, the composite z scores were ranked 1 (best) through 55 (worst).

The indicators' z scores summed to achieve the composite rank include Percent Low Birth-Weight Babies, Infant Mortality Rate, Child Death Rate, Percent Children Approved for Free and Reduced School Meals, Teen Birth Rate, Percent Births to Unmarried Teens, Percent High School Dropouts, Teen Injury Death Rate, and Births to Mothers with Less Than a 12th Grade Education. This year's *WV KIDS COUNT Data Book* omits both Percent of Eligible Children Served by Head Start and Child Abuse/Neglect Rate in the composite score. County composite ranks from the 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996 or 1997 books with those from the 1991 and 1992 books are not comparable.

Each of the 12 indicators is also ranked in sequential order from best (1) to worst (55). The ranking was obtained by simply ranking the rate or percentage from best to worst. These individual indicator rankings appear on each of the county pages under the county rank column. Each individual indicator ranking, except for Percent of Eligible Children Served by Head Start (1998 data) and Percent Children Approved for Free and Reduced School Meals (1998 data), is based on 1996 data. On all of the indicators, except for Head Start, the lowest rate or percent is given the most positive ranking (rank = 1). Whenever two or more counties were tied for the individual indicator rank, they were all assigned the same rank, e.g. if four counties tied at ranking position 1, all four were assigned a rank of 1, then the next county was ranked 5.

Caution should be used in interpreting the results of the rankings. Some indicators--child death rate, for example--document relatively rare events. For example, the county that is ranked 3rd for a particular indicator may have a value of 2%, while the county that is ranked 25th may have a value of 4%.

Caution should also be used when reading the actual numbers. Since some of the indicators' actual numbers are averages for a three-year span, a zero reported may include one case within the three-year span. If a county has a reported rate higher than 0 for an averaged indicator and the reported actual number for that indicator is 0, then one case had occurred within the three-year span. This occurs due to rounding of the actual numbers to whole

numbers.

The percentages in this book are rounded to the nearest tenth of a percent. Percent changes for the indicators are based on unrounded figures. The percent change given in this book may not equal the percentage change from the actual numbers given in this book.

"NC" indicates there was no change between the 1980 and 1996 rate or percent. "NA" indicates that data was not available. "NM" is used when the 1980 data is zero and 1996 data is any value above zero because a percent change from zero cannot be calculated. When the 1980 data is any value above zero and the 1996 data is zero, the percent change shown is always 100 percent.

Definitions, Methodology and Sources:

How an indicator or background factor was constructed is only presented when staff at the survey research center performed calculations to determine rates or percentages.

Indicator or background factor clarification is provided for those variables needing some explanation about the data; this does not apply to every variable.

Data sources are the same for both state and county unless otherwise specified. When the national data source was different from the state or county source, there are headings specifying different state and national sources. Again, county sources are the same as state sources, unless otherwise specified.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

COUNTY	Low Birth-Weight Babies 1980	1986	Infant Deaths Cumulative #s 1976-80	1992-96	Child Deaths Cumulative #s 1976-80	1992-96	Kids in Head Start 1998	Kids Approved For Free Reduced Price Meals 1998	Child Abuse/Neglect Cases 1995	Births to Teens 1980	1996	Births to Unmarried Teens 1980	1996	High School Dropouts 1980	1996	Teen Violent Deaths Cumulative #s 1976-80	1992-96
West Virginia	1,985	1,642	2,110	834	891	444	6,578	149,346	15,021	5,921	3,559	1,751	2,356	8,094	4,046	761	441
BARBOUR	14	14	21	11	6	1	82	1,882	98	49	38	15	28	99	35	6	3
BERKELEY	41	70	49	36	32	17	174	1,836	317	157	135	50	107	230	191	20	14
BOONE	29	30	35	5	29	17	114	2,540	163	106	72	27	47	180	85	8	9
BRATTON	14	9	13	6	12	2	104	1,632	170	45	23	14	13	70	24	5	4
BROOKE	25	18	27	5	9	0	43	1,343	169	57	28	18	22	79	56	8	1
CABELL	84	107	113	63	48	26	313	6,447	1,071	314	183	101	120	317	295	33	11
CALHOUN	15	6	13	2	7	3	41	1,038	115	39	20	10	10	65	18	4	2
CLAY	14	9	21	4	3	4	99	1,617	115	58	39	18	17	73	23	11	3
DODDRIE	9	8	6	1	6	5	29	766	403	22	15	6	9	41	18	4	0
FAVETTE	60	43	68	19	28	17	180	4,956	81	210	122	73	87	250	101	22	15
GILMER	12	6	8	2	4	3	30	854	81	28	12	6	5	56	11	0	3
GRANT	7	8	7	5	6	4	62	1,041	43	31	21	6	11	35	21	7	4
GREENBRIER	35	28	30	10	13	6	122	3,041	250	111	64	32	43	240	77	16	14
HAMPSHIRE	13	16	8	9	3	10	79	1,902	87	39	29	8	20	59	58	14	6
HANCOCK	29	24	35	9	11	6	89	1,263	274	86	40	27	28	107	60	11	2
HARDY	7	10	8	5	2	2	69	1,060	69	26	19	9	11	44	17	1	4
HARRISON	78	56	74	46	24	14	214	5,678	535	200	136	57	93	249	113	32	19
JACKSON	20	17	17	12	10	9	77	2,191	188	73	45	11	25	91	62	12	7
JEFFERSON	31	36	31	15	21	12	88	2,360	129	92	72	36	58	167	136	12	9
KANAWHA	227	209	217	93	87	43	436	13,589	1,858	614	418	231	311	797	529	94	52
LEWIS	22	14	16	9	8	3	68	1,694	158	50	29	10	19	73	42	5	3
LINCOLN	22	20	16	10	11	7	140	2,888	294	19	58	19	32	151	57	14	12
LOGAN	66	46	79	10	32	13	217	3,913	422	215	127	63	78	306	117	23	14
LOGANWELL	87	39	94	28	30	15	320	4,617	456	276	109	95	61	350	72	21	15
MARION	65	48	70	29	26	12	228	3,927	414	170	88	53	55	256	49	21	5
MARSHALL	35	21	33	6	11	7	82	2,354	293	102	51	31	34	142	57	19	3
MASON	28	23	33	11	12	6	68	2,100	203	92	56	24	45	73	84	25	4
MERCER	103	76	96	25	52	22	216	5,324	509	238	169	68	107	351	130	31	15
MINERAL	27	21	22	13	11	8	114	2,405	89	71	42	18	27	76	38	12	6
MINGO	53	26	63	16	28	9	355	4,039	558	190	94	48	53	78	101	19	19
MONONGALIA	46	64	52	38	22	22	133	4,016	589	124	93	37	67	239	129	13	5
MONROE	12	8	13	5	3	1	59	1,126	39	30	21	6	13	45	34	5	4
MORGAN	8	6	5	5	9	1	80	1,017	67	29	30	7	21	37	52	5	2
NICHOLAS	22	24	39	8	13	3	122	2,767	247	98	50	26	30	117	50	9	6
OHIO	54	38	79	28	22	11	143	2,478	321	106	85	46	77	190	76	21	6
PENDLETON	9	6	16	3	2	4	36	606	38	21	12	3	10	17	12	8	1
PLEASANT'S	6	7	11	1	8	1	22	633	45	25	14	9	9	34	17	5	0
POCAHONTAS	11	8	16	6	7	4	15	958	54	37	19	12	12	33	20	6	3
PRESTON	41	37	33	27	19	7	111	3,028	209	98	54	20	35	134	63	19	10
PUTNAM	36	35	28	12	13	7	112	3,435	318	84	57	18	31	138	64	14	19
RALEIGH	99	84	102	40	42	14	309	6,591	431	162	88	100	431	195	25	33	33
RANDOLPH	21	22	22	15	21	11	74	2,977	212	92	47	26	29	145	43	7	4
RITCHIE	13	9	10	3	4	1	30	1,146	84	38	24	9	14	43	36	10	10
ROANE	23	11	23	4	8	4	56	1,897	179	55	35	13	20	69	33	4	5
SUMMERS	20	12	28	6	10	5	62	1,106	67	56	25	21	15	83	41	8	8
TAYLOR	19	11	20	10	5	1	72	1,545	102	50	23	12	15	75	22	9	2
TUCKER	9	6	11	4	1	1	10	759	50	22	7	4	3	24	15	1	2
TYLER	9	5	13	1	5	0	47	801	56	35	17	9	9	32	15	2	1
UPSHUR	27	19	31	13	8	7	176	2,179	171	70	43	15	25	90	54	8	5
WAYNE	41	43	23	17	24	14	141	4,206	474	153	85	30	46	276	87	15	11
WEBSTER	13	8	14	11	7	2	48	1,556	166	45	22	14	12	115	36	6	1
WETZEL	16	16	26	13	9	3	50	1,763	129	61	39	15	25	94	37	9	2
WIRT	5	3	2	4	1	1	19	643	42	14	8	4	5	21	10	1	2
WOOD	108	83	127	40	37	13	200	5,475	873	282	164	93	117	388	136	17	13
WYOMING	45	19	43	5	25	9	199	3,041	326	138	69	29	39	117	100	16	9

Numbers, continued

COUNTY	Births to Moms with > 12 Years Education			Cash Assistance		Births With Early Prenatal Care		Total Minority Population		Number of Minority Children		Kids in Single Parent Families		Kids in Poverty	
	1980	1996		1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996
	1980	1996		1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996	1980	1996
West Virginia	9,248	4,631		25,689	36,128	18,913	16,567	74,893	77,863	23,313	20,825	66,949	77,130	101,909	142,140
BARBOUR	89	40		304	366	160	142	223	477	75	122	533	690	1,181	1,590
BERKELEY	245	223		495	873	477	733	2,011	3,608	687	1,047	1,790	2,738	2,524	3,695
BOONE	213	96		450	819	302	220	383	363	122	106	1,071	1,143	1,755	2,600
BRAXTON	66	28		197	305	124	104	99	149	29	47	507	523	1,098	1,306
BROOKE	80	32		349	352	292	202	325	390	74	94	866	866	1,079	1,283
CABELL	432	260		1,429	2,117	1,021	1,070	5,208	5,124	1,540	1,327	4,178	4,441	4,471	6,509
CALHOUN	62	27		138	205	108	54	63	74	0	17	318	411	810	882
CLAY	94	45		229	357	101	87	19	50	0	12	393	526	1,433	1,505
DODDRIDGE	340	157		93	149	73	69	27	62	0	23	236	249	609	645
FAYETTE	42	15		103	166	96	13	78	104	8	13	223	234	3,798	4,912
GILMER	41	29		111	83	102	119	151	209	42	51	238	280	457	748
GRANT	175	92		289	429	258	182	1,673	1,594	507	385	1,235	1,453	1,675	2,457
GREENBRIER	60	46		170	257	146	105	153	105	49	105	456	614	869	1,236
HAMPDEN	116	47		414	485	352	303	1,235	1,267	367	311	1,331	1,387	1,008	1,718
HANCOCK	41	25		121	95	94	120	123	332	56	77	289	376	542	542
HARDY	297	170		1,014	1,442	522	736	1,326	2,279	420	566	2,622	3,000	3,761	5,585
HARRISON	104	52		167	455	272	242	83	208	33	72	1,021	1,411	1,057	1,962
JACKSON	178	103		332	449	346	422	2,913	3,773	1,081	1,064	1,215	1,411	1,485	1,941
JEFFERSON	930	516		2,459	3,930	2,389	1,743	15,414	16,314	4,803	4,586	8,362	10,142	8,030	14,478
KANAWHA	85	33		235	340	201	144	141	203	33	49	657	754	996	1,632
LEWIS	180	77		530	794	213	213	43	101	0	28	810	882	2,264	2,919
LINCOLN	372	161		810	1,315	239	365	2,389	1,865	784	503	1,949	2,089	3,567	4,783
LOGAN	552	164		1,663	1,722	417	233	7,498	4,487	2,439	1,308	2,377	1,942	5,308	5,663
MARION	214	90		866	1,176	685	474	2,803	2,545	839	621	2,175	2,204	2,845	4,000
MARSHALL	143	58		483	633	260	229	306	527	103	134	1,329	1,486	1,399	2,427
MASON	155	76		257	557	260	229	246	312	92	84	833	1,066	1,231	2,058
MERCER	375	201		1,230	1,349	687	592	5,459	4,807	1,685	1,340	2,607	2,808	4,040	5,707
MINERAL	79	46		344	370	288	256	900	951	335	258	871	983	1,312	1,653
MINGO	360	152		1,060	1,368	299	322	1,174	1,180	385	339	1,643	1,907	3,949	4,420
MONROE	193	106		392	815	734	691	2,754	4,634	622	802	1,860	2,370	1,824	3,525
MORGAN	59	31		81	119	89	114	262	262	67	63	332	412	934	850
NICHOLAS	167	56		378	627	315	233	75	163	0	58	258	352	633	588
OHIO	151	87		742	732	606	421	2,513	2,231	861	649	2,316	2,366	2,075	2,774
PENDLETON	28	17		100	55	71	75	197	216	69	60	203	221	566	388
PLEASANTS	35	14		60	108	71	66	29	34	8	11	278	324	386	476
POCAHONTAS	154	62		419	506	343	294	105	178	9	25	258	316	359	591
PRESTON	115	73		284	470	430	479	169	596	46	78	869	1,027	2,076	2,422
PUTNAM	437	236		1,070	1,801	610	682	7,413	6,974	2,424	2,049	2,769	3,572	4,101	2,288
RALEIGH	143	69		316	420	284	265	349	510	60	106	872	1,116	1,660	2,443
RANDOLPH	51	26		95	183	109	84	20	42	0	8	382	421	716	880
RITCHIE	97	48		176	338	161	120	146	102	0	25	474	672	897	1,640
ROANE	95	33		335	293	127	93	1,241	774	182	130	612	579	1,199	1,329
SUMMERS	76	28		238	300	175	123	173	273	44	52	586	629	1,329	1,308
TAYLOR	29	8		64	68	79	62	27	70	0	16	307	351	598	684
TUCKER	45	21		107	170	113	84	23	70	0	16	307	351	598	684
TYLER	114	66		194	504	253	202	182	398	36	79	648	947	1,280	2,120
UPSHUR	220	132		582	882	452	444	119	277	29	82	1,477	1,656	3,310	3,748
WAYNE	87	35		339	407	149	86	17	57	2	20	526	576	1,424	1,450
WEBSTER	94	43		267	387	235	161	115	74	0	30	769	769	882	1,479
WETZEL	19	9		60	114	44	42	17	13	0	4	119	198	286	436
WIRT	337	194		1,005	1,350	988	846	1,138	1,565	387	500	3,392	3,829	3,841	5,487
WOOD	267	93		758	1,012	245	225	489	432	158	115	1,262	1,400	2,902	3,328
WYOMING															

Common Myths About the Poor

Public perceptions about the poor, welfare programs, and welfare recipients often are shaped more by myth, anecdote, and misinformation than by research. Some common misperceptions include:

Myth 1. The vast majority of the poor are blacks or Hispanics.

Poverty rates are higher among African-Americans and Hispanics than among other racial/ethnic groups, but they do not make up the majority of the poor. Non-Hispanic whites are the most numerous racial/ethnic group in the poverty population. They make up 48 percent of the poor, while African Americans make up 27 percent, and Hispanics 22 percent.

Myth 2. People are poor because they do not want to work.

Half of the poor are not in the working ages: About 40 percent are under age 18; another 10 percent are age 65 and older. Many poor people have jobs, but earn below-poverty wages. Nearly 6 million poor adults (ages 18 to 64) worked for 27 or more weeks during 1994—about 30 percent of the working-age poverty population. Many poor individuals report they cannot work because of a serious disability or because they must care for family members.

Myth 3. Poor families are trapped in a cycle of poverty that few escape.

The poverty population is dynamic—people move in and out of poverty every year. Only 12 percent of the poor remain in poverty for five or more consecutive years.

Myth 4. Welfare programs for the poor are straining the federal budget.

Social assistance programs for low-income families and individuals are expected to cost the federal government about \$217 billion in Fiscal Year 1996, which is about 14 percent of projected federal expenditures for that year. A much larger share of the budget (43 percent) goes to other types of social assistance, such as Social Security and Medicare, which mainly go to middle-class Americans, not the poor.

Myth 5. The majority of the poor live in inner-city neighborhoods.

Less than half (42 percent) of the poor live in central city areas, and less than one-quarter live in high-poverty inner-city areas. Over one-third (36 percent) of the poor live in the suburbs, and more than one-fifth (22 percent) live outside metropolitan areas.

Myth 6. Most of the poor are single mothers and their children.

Female-headed families represent just 38 percent of the poor. About 34 percent of the poor live in married-couple families, 22 percent live alone or with nonrelatives, and the remainder live in male-headed families with no wife present.

Myth 7. Antipoverty programs are designed to reduce poverty.

Most welfare programs are geared to sustain the poor, not pull them out of poverty. Only about 10 percent of the welfare budget goes to education and training programs designed to help people improve their earning potential. About 3 million people were lifted out of poverty by cash welfare assistance in 1994, which lowered the poverty rate only one-half a percentage point.

Taken from William P. O'Hare, "A New Look at Poverty in America," *Population Bulletin*, vol. 51, no. 2 (Washington, DC: Population Reference Bureau, Inc., September 1996).

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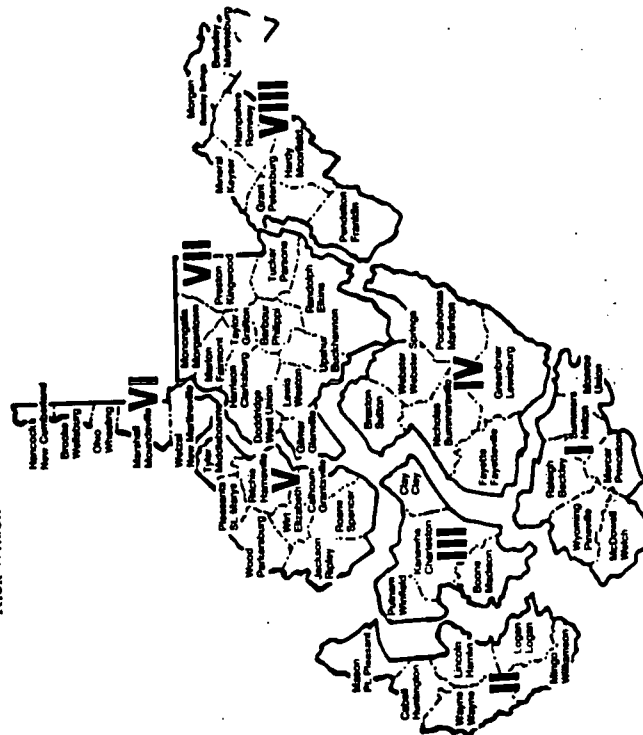
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